A JOURNAL OF AN Embaſſy from *MUSCOVY* INTO CHINA, Over Land.



Peter Alexiovitz *the present*
Grand Czar of Moſcovie
Anno ætat. 37.

A JOURNAL OF THE EMBASSY

From Their MAJESTIES

John and *Peter Alexievitz*,

Emperors of *MUSCOVY*, &c.

Over Land into

CHINA,

Through the

Provinces of *Ustiugha*, *Siberia*, *Dauri*, and the Great *Tartary*, to *Peking*, the Capital City of the *Chinese* Empire.

By *Everard Ibrand*, Their Ambassador in the Years 1693, 1694, and 1695.

Written by *Adam Brand*, Secretary of the Embassy.

Translated from the Original in *High-Dutch*, Printed at *Hamburgh*, 1698.

To which is added, Curious Observations concerning the Products of *Russia*.

By *H. W. Ludolf*.

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The Habitts of the Ostiacken & Kerrgiesen people.



The Habitts of the Tunguſen and Dauriſchn people.



AN ACCOUNT OF AN Embaſſy from *MUSCOVY* INTO CHINA OVER LAND.

THE now moſt Illuſtrious Princes *Ivan* and *Peter Alexievits*, Great Lords, Emperors, Grand Dukes, and Conſervators of all the *Great*, and *Little*, and *White Ruſſia*; of *Muſcovy*, of *Volodimir* and *Novogorod*; Emperors of *Caſan*; Emperors of *Aſtrachan*; Emperors of *Siberia*; Lords of *Plesko*; Great

Dukes of *Twerſco*, *Leghorſcho*, *Permſco*, *Veatſco*, *Belgarſco*, &c. Lords and Great Dukes of *Novogorod* in the Lower Countries; of *Roſansko*, *Roſteſsko*, *Gereſteſsko*, *Beteozarsko*, *Onderſco*, *Obdorsko*, *Condinsko*, and all the Northern parts; Lords of the Country of *Verſco*, of *Cartalinsko*, and of *Gruzinſco*, and of the Country of *Cabardinſco*; Czars and Dukes of *Circaſco*, and *Igorſco*, Lords and Monarchs of ſeveral other Dominions and Provinces, Eaſt, Weſt, and North; which are their Inheritance from Father to Son: Theſe, I ſay, my moſt gracious Lords and Princes, having after mature deliberation reſolved to ſend a moſt ſplendid Embaſſy to the Great *Amologdarhan* (or Emperor of *China*); *Everrard Isbrand*, a Native of *Germany*, born in the City of *Gluckſtad*, in the Dukedom of *Holſtein*, was pitch'd upon by the abovementioned Two *Czars*, as a fit Subject to diſcharge ſo great a Truſt; and being accordingly declared their Ambaſſador to the Great *Amologdarhan*, he gracefully accepted of the Favour beſtowed upon him by both their *Czariſh* Majeſties; and after his humble Thanks for the Grace received from their hands in putting ſo much confidence in him, he ordered his Equipage,

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and all other matters requisite for so great a Journey, to be got in readiness to depart at a minutes warning.

After some time spent in providing several rich Presents, which we were to carry along with us into *China*, and all other necessaries; the Ambassador and the chiefest of his Retinue were in the Year 1692, the 3d of *March*, introduced into the presence of *Ivan Alexievits*, to Kiss his *Czarish* Majesty's hands; and on the 12th of *March* following, having been admitted into the presence of *Peter Alexievits*, the Youngest of the Two *Czars*, to receive the same Honour from his Hands after his return to *Musco* from *Peresla*, we set out on our Journey the next following day, being the 13th of *March*.

The whole Attendance of the Ambassador at his departure from *Musco*, consisted only in One and twenty Persons; among whom were Twelve *Germans*, the rest *Muscovites*. We were provided with a good Chest of Physick, a Physician, and a good number of Baggage-Waggons to carry our Provisions, Wines, and all other Necessaries for so great a Journey; and having taken our leave, not without some tears, of our Friends, both *Germans* and *Muscovites*, who conducted us for

some Miles out the Town, we continued our Journy towards *Troitza*.

But before I go any further in giving an account of this Embassy, I hope it will not be look'd upon in me as a presumption, if by way of digression, I touch upon some general matters concerning *Muscovy*, which being otherwise known by the name of the *Great* or *Black Russia*, extends its Frontiers to the utmost Borders of *Europe* and *Asia*. It is of a vast extent, its length reaching from the Confines of *Poland* as far as to the great *Asiatick Tartary*, and its breadth from the *Frozen Sea* to the *Caspian Lake* or *Sea*; but many of its Provinces (especially those bordering upon *Asia*) are almost desolate.

Among many others, it has Four great and famous Rivers; the first is the River *Wolga*, arising not far from the Confines of *Poland*, and exonerating it self in the *Caspian Sea*. The second is the River *Oby*, which disimbogues in the *Frozen Sea*; and on that side divides *Asia* from *Europe*. The third the River *Don*, which discharges it self in the *Euxine Sea*. And the fourth the River *Dwina*, which falls near *Archangel* into the *White Sea*.

The City of *Musco*, besides its antiquity, has this to boast of, that ever since

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the Year 1540. at what time *Czar Ivan Basilovits* began his Reign, it has been the constant Residence of the succeeding *Czars*, to wit, of *Fedor Ivanovits*, *Boris Goudenou*, *Fedor Berisovits*, of the Counterfeit *Demetrius Ivanovits*, of *Basili Ivanovits Zuiski*, *Michael Federovits*, *Alexei Michaelovits*, *Ivan Alexiovits*, and of the present *Czar Peter Alexiovits*. It is near Fifteen *English* Miles in compass, being scituate on the River *Mosco* (which not far from thence joins its current with the River *Occa*, and falls afterwards into the great River *Wolga*) in the Center of *Muscovy*.

The Castle, called *Cremelina*, where the *Czars* of *Muscovy* keep their ordinary Residence, is Fortified with a very strong Wall, a deep Ditch, and some Demilunes, upon which are mounted good store of large Cannon.

Russia has its own Patriarch, who exercises the same Authority all over the *Muscovian* Empire, as the Pope does in other *Roman* Catholick Countries. But for the conveniency of Commerce, the *Lutherans*, as well as other Protestants, are allow'd the free exercise of their Religion in the City of *Musco*, as well as in some other places of *Muscovy*. The *Lutherans* are

very considerable for their Number in the Capital City, where they have Two Churches built of Stone in the *German* Suburbs. The *Calvinists* have also one very finely built in the same place. The *Roman Catholicks* and *Jews*, who have not been tolerated till of late, only exercise their devotion in a private house, and the Jesuits are excluded from that benefit also, under pain of Banishment, as it happened to one of that Fraternity not many years ago.

It is very well worth taking notice here, That the present *Czar Peter* is a Prince of an excellent good Humour, and a great Favourer of the *Lutherans*, whom he presented with all the Stone Materials which were made use of in building their new Church, and gave them permission, without the approbation of the Patriarch, to adorn their Church with a Steeple.

But to return to our Journey; We Travelled the 14th of *March* to *Troitza*, a place very agreeable both for its Scituation and the Fertility of the circumjacent Country. This place is chiefly famous for the Convent of *Troitza*, which by reason of its strong Fortifications resembles a great Castle at a distance, being scituate about 60 *Versts* or *English* Miles from *Moscow*. The present *Czar Peter* is so

so extreamly taken with the delightfulness of this place, that scarce a Week passes but he diverts himself there.

After we had passed here one Day and two Nights to refresh our Horses, and to take a full view of the place, we Travelled the 16th of *March* as far as *Pereslaw*, a great and magnificent City, according to the *Muscovian* Fashion, the Houses being all of Wood. It is scituate on a Lake about 60 *Versts* or Miles from *Troitza*, near it are fine Saltpits, which afford great store of very white Salt, which is from thence transported to other places.

From hence we pursued our Journy to the City of *Rostof*, having a Convent of the same name; it is the Capital of the Province of the same name, which in former Ages was, next to *Novogorod Veliki*, accounted one of the most ancient and most considerable of *Muscovy*, and afterwards was appropriated as an Appenage to the use of the Younger Brothers of the Imperial Family; but the last Prince of that Race being in the Year 1565, by the Tyrant *Ivan Basilovits* bereav'd at once of his Dominions and Life, the same was reincorporated with the Crown of *Muscovy*.

The City of *Rostof* it self is a very large

and ſtately City, ſcituate on a Lake; from whence ariſes the River *Coterius*, which diſcharges it ſelf into the River *Wolga*; it is dignified with the Title of an Archbiſhoprick, and the Archbiſhop keeps his Reſidence in the Caſtle, which is Built of Wood; it is 60 *Verſts* diſtant from *Pereſlaw*.

We did not tarry long here, being afraid to loſe the convenience of making uſe of our Sleds, by reaſon of the approaching Spring; for which reaſon having provided our ſelves with freſh Horſes, we came on the 18th of *March* to *Jaroſlaw*, the Capital of the Province, ſcituate near the River *Wolga*, and one of the largeſt Cities of the whole *Ruſſian* Empire. It is a place of vaſt Traffick, but eſpecially celebrated for its Trade in *Muſcovia*-Leather; of which ſuch prodigious quantities are dreſſed in this place, that it furniſhes not only *Muſcovy*, but alſo a great part of *Europe* with this Commodity.

The Province of *Jaroſlaw* is of a very large extent, and extremely fertile, eſpecially where it borders upon the River *Wolga*. This Province, like the former, was allotted as an Appenage to the Younger Houſe of *Muſcovy*; who enjoyed it for a conſiderable time, with the Title of Princes, till being alſo ſubdued

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by the aforementioned Tyrant *Iván Baſilowitz*, they were forced to reſt contented with a certain yearly Allowance under the Juriſdiction of the *Czars* of *Muſcovy*.

We were forced to ſtay here the 19th of *March*, partly to take a little Reſt, partly to expect the Coming of our Baggage. The 20th we again ſet forward in our Journey, and arrived at Mid-night in the City of *Wologda*, ſituate upon the River of the ſame Name, about 180 Verſts or Miles from *Jaroſlaw*. All the Country betwixt this City and that of *Muſco* is extreamly populous, we ſeldom Travelling a Day but within ſight of 14 or 15 Villages or Towns.

This City is the Capital of the Province of the ſame Name, which is almoſt impaſſable at ſome times of the Year, by reaſon of the many Foreſts and Boggs: It formerly was under the Juriſdiction of the Dukes of *Novogorod Veliki*; but ſince the Peace concluded in the Year 1613, betwixt the *Swedes* and *Muſcovites*; by vertue of which, the laſt were put in poſſeſſion of the Dukedom of *Novogorod Veliki*, that of *Wologda*, as being its dependency, alſo devolved unto the *Muſcovites*. It is a pretty large City; but what is moſt remarkable is its Caſtle, which by the indefatigable

deſatigable Care of the *Muſcovites* is ſurrounded with ſo ſtrong a Fortification of Stone, as to be accounted impregnable.

The River *Wologda*, which has communicated its Name both to the City and Province, runs from Weſt to North, till it joins its Current with the River *Dwina*.

On the 21ſt Day of *March* (as good fortune would have it) the Weather turn'd again to a hard Froſt, to our great Satisfaction; for without it we muſt have quitted our Sleds, and muſt have ſtay'd there till the Froſt had been quite broke, which in all probability would have ſtopp'd our Journey for ſeveral Months. We therefore purſued our Journey the 22d, and on the 23d came to *Scuskajam*; where being provided with freſh Horſes, we, after Dinner was over, went forward upon the River of *Sucagna*. On the 24th of *March* we again changed our Horſes in a ſmall Place called *Tettma*; which having nothing in it to ſtay us in our Journey, we Travelled on with all the Expedition imaginable, in hopes to take up our next nights Quarters in the Village of *Uſgorodiſhna*; but meeting beyond Expectation there with more freſh Horſes; and being willing to improve our Time

to

to the best advantage, we Travelled on the same Night; and the following Day, being the 26th of *March*, to the Village of *Bobroffskajam*, where indeed we refresh'd our selves a little; but having again the good fortune to find new Horses ready for us, we set forward the same Night; and the next following, being the 27th of *March*, and the first *Easter* Holiday, arrived in the Capital City of the Province of *Ustiugha*; where we spent that day and the following night in affording our selves necessary Rest, and such other good Cheer as we thought most convenient to restore our decayed Spirits.

Scarce had we taken a few hours Rest to recover our selves from the past Fatigues, but the Governor of the Place sent one of his Servants; who after a Compliment from his Master, offered us in his Name every thing that might be in his Power to serve us; and I must confess, that we were not only very handsomely entertain'd here, but also furnish'd with every thing that was thought convenient for the prosecution of our Journey.

The City of *Ustiugha*, as well as its Castle, is situate upon the very Bank of the River *Sutagna*, being a very populous and well-built City; its chief Traffick consists

consists in all sorts of Furrs and Skins, but especially in white Fox-Skins.

We Travelled all the way from *Schuskajam* to *Ustiugha*, upon the River *Suiugna*, not without great Danger, the Ice being almost melted by the Beams of the approaching Sun: This is the same River by which the Merchants of *Wologda* travel to *Archangel*.

Being again provided here with fresh Horses, we came on the 29th of *March* to a small Place called *Lolowitzgoth*, upon the River of *Wissegda*: This River joining its Current with the River *Dwina*, is very well known to the *Russian* Merchants, who from this Place travel in six or seven Nights to *Archangel*.

For the rest, this Place having nothing in it, which was inviting enough to detain us there; and meeting with fresh Horses, we travell'd the same day near 50 Miles through a very large Forest, which is accounted by the Inhabitants to contain 800 Miles in length.

It is in sundry places inhabited by a certain People called *Sirenes*, who tho' quite different from the *Muscovites* in their Language and Manners, yet profess the *Greek* Religion, and are therefore in great Esteem among the *Russians*. Where-ever

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we came we had our ſhare in the publick Rejoicings, which are made, during the *Eaſter*-time, all over *Muſcovy*, in remembrance of the Reſurrection of Chriſt; it being an ancient Cuſtom in *Ruſſia* to preſent one another not only on *Eaſter*-day, but for 14 days after, with painted Eggs, of which you ſee great Quantities ready boil'd, to be ſold on all the Corners of the Streets, no body, of what Quality, Degree, Age or Sex, daring to refuſe either the Eggs or the Kiſs, which is always given as you preſent the Eggs. If they meet in the Streets, they ſalute one another in theſe Words, *Chriſto vos chreſt*; that is, Chriſt is riſen: whereto the other having anſwered, *Wo is tenoros Chreſt*; that is, he is certainly riſen, they Kiſs one another. This Cuſtom is ſo general, that if during this time you are invited at a *Ruſſian*'s Houſe to partake of their Merriments, and you ſhould not offer to kiſs the Ladies there preſent, (where it is to be obſerved that you muſt take care not to touch them with your hands) you would be look'd upon as an ill-bred Clown; whereas if you acquit your ſelf handſomely in this Point, you are ſure to receive a Cup of *Aquavitæ* in return for your Civility.

But

But to return to our Journey, which for ſome days after proved very troubleſome to us, being obliged to cut down many Trees, to facilitate our Paſſage through the Foreſt; Beſides which, the many Rivers (amongſt which the *Siaſella*, *Chaſma*, and *Naſtima Pera*, were the chiefeſt) we were to paſs, rendered our Paſſage not only difficult, but very dangerous, many of our Men and Sleds falling into the laſt of theſe Rivers by the breaking of the Ice; but, by the help of the reſt, having happily eſcaped the danger, we were obliged to take new Meaſures for the future.

For which reaſon, when we came to any of theſe Rivulets, which coming from the adjacent Hills, run through the Valleys, we faſtned many pieces of Timber together, over which (in the nature of a Bridge of Boats) we drew our Sleds by the help of ſtrong Ropes, whilſt we were forced to walk it on Foot, and to let our Horſes ſwim through the Rivers; We had at laſt the good fortune to ſurmount all theſe Obſtacles, without any great Damage or Loſs; but being extreamly fatigued by ſo troubleſome a Paſſage, we reſted our ſelves for ſome time in a Village.

Having

Having a little recovered our ſelves, we continued our Journey, and arrived ſafely on the 6th of *April* at *Kaigorod*, upon the River *Kama*. This Place has its own Governor, and a good Gariſon, who keep a watchful Eye over the Inhabitants, who are *Sirenes*; beſides, that the *Coſacks* ſometimes pay them a Viſit when they leaſt expect it.

Of this the Governor of the Place, *Ivan Mikietivits Lopugin*, related us an Inſtance which had hapned two Years before, in the Year 1690, being the firſt of his Government. It ſeems thirty of theſe *Coſacks* having had intelligence that the Place was at that time not ſufficiently provided for its Defence, had taken a Reſolution to attack it on the Water-ſide: For which purpoſe, having provided themſelves with all neceſſary Arms, and, among the reſt, with one great Piece of Cannon, they took the opportunity of the Night, when every body enjoying the benefit of Reſt, they ſurprized the Town, murthered and plundered all that came in their way, and were within an Inch of having ſeized the Governor; who happily eſcaping their hands, cauſed the Alarum to be given to the Inhabitants; who being thereby made ſenſible of the Danger, run to their Arms,

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and ſoon obliged theſe Vagabonds to betake themſelves to flight. They purſued them for ſome time upon the River; but the darkneſs of the Night covering their Retreat, they eſcaped with the greateſt part of the Booty.

Our Sleds being now become quite uſeleſs to us, we were obliged to tarry here till ſuch time that the Ice were ſunk in the River: In the mean while we diverted our ſelves with Hunting, and ſuch other Paſtimes as the Place and our preſent Circumſtances would afford. For we had not been here many days, when we were frightned with a new Report, That a conſiderable Number of theſe Robbers had again aſſociated together in order to come and ſurprize our Baggage, which put us under no ſmall Conſternation, till the Governor having order'd us a good Guard, and diſpoſed the Garriſon ſo as to be ready upon all occaſions, we were ſoon freed from theſe Apprehenſions, and paſſed the reſt of our time in our uſual divertiſements.

The River being by this time cleared of the Ice, we took our Leave of the Governor, and embark'd in a Veſſel built for that purpoſe, on the 23d of *April*, upon the River *Kama*; in our Paſſage we ſaw

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ſeveral Monaſteries on both ſides of the River, but very few Villages.

The large River *Kama* comes from the North-East, and with a ſwift Current runs as far as *Caſan*, where it exonerates it ſelf on the left ſide of it into the River *Wolga*. It approaches in Bigneſs to the River *Weſer* in *Germany*. It is increaſed by ſeveral leſſer Rivers, among which is the River *Wiſetzca*, which falls into it about 25 Miles from *Solokamsko*.

We left the River *Kama* on the 26th of *April*, towards Evening, directing our Courſe to the Left, to the ſmall River *Uſolsko*, from whence we had 7 Miles to travel to *Solokamsko*. But going againſt the Stream, we came not till the 27th to *Solokamsko*, being a Place ſituate in a very pleaſant Plain upon the River *Uſolsko*, built there on purpoſe by the *Muſcovites* for the conveniency of ſuch, as have occaſion to travel into thoſe far diſtant Places. It is inhabited both by *Ruſſians* and *Tartars*, who trade in all ſorts of Cattle, but eſpecially in Horſes; which being very excellent hereabouts, are preferred before others all over *Muſcovy*.

There being conſtantly fourſcore Coppers employed here in making of Salt, this makes this Place, as well as the adja-

cent Villages, (where they follow the ſame Employment) very conſiderable, it being very fine, and from hence tranſported to *Caſan*.

On the 29th of *April* we had the misfortune to have one of the Ambaſſador's Attendance to fall over-board, and to be drowned: He was a *Muſcovite* by Birth, his Name being *Simon Callaſtion*, for the reſt a good honeſt fellow; but being overcome by the ſtrength of *Aquavitæ*, came by this Accident, by tumbling over-board, and was, notwithſtanding all the care taken by his Comrades to ſave his life, carried away by the ſwiftneſs of the Current: His Body was found floating on the firſt of *May*, when it was interr'd near the Shoar.

On the ſecond of *May* the Ambaſſador, with moſt of his Retinue, were invited by a certain *Muſcovian* Gentleman, one of the *Czar's* Factors, whoſe Name was *Alexi Aſtaffi Philatoff*, to his Country-houſe, about 20 Miles diſtant from *Solak*, where we were entertained with a very handſome Dinner, and paſs'd the Day very merrily. Near this place his *Czariſh* Majeſty employs above 20000 Workmen in making of Salt. The Gentleman whom we mention'd before, had, at his own coſt,

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two large Veſſels built in this place, of 400 Tuns each, for the Tranſportation of Salt; and hearing of our coming that way, had cauſed them to ſtay for ſome time, to make us eye-witneſſes of the manner of convoying theſe Ships, and what Order and Diſcipline there was obſerved among them. Each of theſe Veſſels had 500 Men on board, who were to labour without intermiſſion at the Oars, relieving each other at certain and convenient times, under the Command of ſeveral Officers; ſo that by the continual ſupply of freſh Men, theſe Veſſels could perform a great Voyage in a little time. Both theſe Veſſels being loaden with nothing but Salt, were bound to *Caſan*, where they ſold it to a great Advantage: For whereas the *Pode* (being 40 Pound weight) did not ſtand the Owner in above half a *Copeck* upon the Spot, it was ſold at *Caſan* for twelve or thirteen *Copecks*.

The night, betwixt the 3d and 4th of *May*, it began to Snow and Freeze ſo hard again, as if it had been in the Winter; which continuing till the 8th, put us to no ſmall trouble, being obliged to ſtay here ſeventeen Days, which however we paſſed pleaſantly enough. The worſt of all was, that by the melting of the Snow,

and the overflowing of the Rivers, we were disappointed in our design of going by Land to *Wergaturia*, situate upon the Frontiers of *Siberia*; which being but a small Place, and furnished with very low and indifferent Buildings, notwithstanding this has its own *Waywode* or Governor. But, as I said before, being disappointed in our design, we were forced to make use of five Boats, each of them Mann'd with five Watermen, who, by the help of their Oars, brought us on the 14th of *May* as far as *Ustugorod*; but the Wind veering about as we were within sight of the Place, drove us back down the River *Usolka*, into the River *Kama*. They count it 50 *German* Miles from *Solekamska* to *Wergaturia*. On the 16th of *May* we entred the small River *Susova*. From *Solekamska* to this River it is counted 30, and from hence to *Ulko* 40 Miles. Here we were again in no small Danger; for the River having overflowen all the circumjacent Country, just as we pass'd upon it, to such an extraordinary a degree, that our Boats often pass'd over the tops of the Trees; if there had happened a sudden Fall of the Waters, we must have infallibly perish'd; but we happily escaped the Danger, and arrived safely on the 19th of

May

May in a small City called *Nieſna Saſowa*, where we refreſh'd our ſelves. On the 20th we came to another ſmall Town, the Inhabitants of both are employed in making of Salt. From hence upwards the River, the pleaſant Woods and Hills on both ſides afford a very delightful Proſpect.

In theſe Foreſts you meet with the *Agaric* Tree, whoſe ſpongeous ſubſtance is from hence carried to *Archangel*, and from thence into other Parts of *Europe*. We ſaw ſeveral Villages on both ſides of the River; and on the 25th of *May* took up our Lodgings in one of them, ſituate upon the very Banks of it. After we had a little recovered our ſelves from our paſt fatigues, we had the curioſity to enquire into the Manners and Cuſtoms of the People inhabiting thoſe Parts.

They are called *Wogulitzoi*, Subjects to the *Czar* of *Muſcovy*, and are all *Pagans*, much addicted to Superſtition. Their Stature is low and mean, not unlike the *Tartars*; their Habitations having alſo a great Reſemblance to the *Tartarian* Huts, but they are never without a Chimney in them; They uſe a Language different both from the *Muſcovites* and *Tartars*,

They being asked concerning their Faith, gave us for anſwer, That they believed a Creator, who reſided in Heaven, for whom they had a great Veneration; They pay Adoration to the Heavens, Sun, Moon, and Water; they ſacrifice Horſes, Cows and Calves; They expoſe their Skins only upon a Pole or high Tree, to which they pay their Devotion; the Meat they eat afterwards. They were altogether ignorant of any thing relating to Baptiſm; they only told us, that it was a moſt ancient Cuſtom among them, to name the Child after the moſt ancient Perſon of the Village. They are very careful to inter their Dead in their beſt Accoutrements, being of opinion that at the Reſurrection (which they believe, without the leaſt ſenſe, whither they are to go afterwards) every one is to appear in the ſame poſture and condition as he was buried. The *Muſcovites* obſerve many Faſts throughout the Year, but theſe were ignorant of what Faſting meant; yet we obſerved that they did not eat any Fowl, but only their Eggs, which they look'd upon as a great Dainty.

Their Marriages are contracted and performed in a very odd manner: If a young Man, who intends to marry a young

young Woman, comes to ask her Father's conſent, the Anſwer is, If thou be'ſt in a condition to pay for her, thou may'ſt have her; ſo they make the bargain as well as they can, the Bridegroom being obliged to purchaſe the Bride from her Father, ſometimes for 40, ſometimes for 50 or more Rubles, which amounts to 20 or 30 Pounds ſterling. The Money being paid, the Bride is ſurrendred to the Bridegroom without any further Ceremony; but if the Money be not ready, there is no Bride to be had; they are yet ſo civil to allow the Bridegroom a certain time to raiſe the Money, and in the mean while he has the liberty to court his Miſtreſs; who, when the bargain is fulfill'd, is carried veiled to his Bed-chamber. After the Bridegroom has gathered the firſt fruits of his nuptial Bed, their Friends and Relations are invited the next day to a Feaſt, where they make themſelves heartily merry with Eating, Drinking, and Dancing till the next morning; when, after they have made ſome Preſents to the young Couple, they part, to their own homes.

What was credibly related to us concerning their Child-bearing Women, is no leſs ſurprizing than the former; For when

the time of their Delivery approaches, they retire into ſome Foreſt or another, where they ſtay for two Months after, till having recovered their full ſtrength, they return to their Husbands. During their ſtay in the Woods, their Husbands dare not approach them under pain of Death; theſe ignorant Wretches being perſuaded, that there are certain inviſible Perſons inhabiting theſe Foreſts, who, as they are very careful to preſerve theſe Women againſt any misfortune that might befal them, ſo they would be ſure to puniſh the Husband with Death, if he ſhould be ſo preſumptuous as to come near his Wife, whilſt ſhe is under their protection in the Foreſt.

We had the opportunity to be preſent at the Burial of one of their Dogs: He was of a very large Size, and had been, as it ſeems, a good Hunting-Dog in his life-time; for which reaſon, theſe poor Wretches made ſad moans and lamentations for the loſs of ſo ſerviceable a Creature: After having uttered many things in his praiſe, they put him into a Grave dug for that purpoſe, with a piece of Wood under his Head, for fear he ſhould lie uneaſy; and as a Monument of their gratitude for his paſt Services, they erected a little Hutt

over

over his Grave. We were credibly informed, that it is a very ancient Cuſtom among theſe People, to bury all their Dogs, and to reward their paſt Services in the ſame manner.

Their manner of living is very miſerable, Husbandry being a thing unknown among them: Hunting is their only livelihood; Sables and the Reen-Deer being the only Commodities this Country affords.

We purſued our Journey on the 26th of *May*, leaving the ſmall River called *Silva Reka* on our right Hand, and towards Noon the ſmall River *Kine*, on the ſame ſide, and towards Evening the River *Serebrena Reka*, to the left of us. On the 28th of *May*, we paſſed by *Ulko Meſovaſa* and *Sullem Reka* to the left of us. On the 29th of the ſame Month we left *Ulko Serebrena Reka* on the ſame ſide, and on the Right the River *Doria Reka*.

On the 1ſt of *June* we came to *Ulkegorod*, a Place fortified after the *Ruſſian* manner, with wooden Fortifications, but very ſmall, containing not above twenty Families.

We ſpent above three Weeks upon the River *Suſowa*, our Veſſel being ſometimes drawn, ſometimes rowed, but always againſt the Current; which, by reaſon of the many windings of the River, is very

ſwift,

ſwift, and ſo violent, that we were ſometimes droven back for a quarter of a Mile before we could recover our ſelves; beſides, that we met with ſeveral Cataracts, which took up a whole day before we could paſs them, and that not without great danger. To add to our affliction, we were continually peſtered with ſuch an infinite number of Gnats, that, whatever pre-caution we took, it was impoſſible for us to preſerve us againſt their fury.

All the way betwixt *Solamsko* and *Ulko* we ſaw nothing but Deſarts and Rocks on both ſides of us, which are moſt dreadful to behold at a diſtance; and becauſe we could not go further up the River, we were forc'd to tarry nine days at *Ulko*, before we could be furniſh'd with Land-Carriages; which time we ſpent in providing our ſelves with Forage and all other neceſſaries; and on the 10th of *June* ſet forward again in our Journey to *Newa*, leaving our Baggage to follow us the next day.

The 12th of *June* we travell'd through a Town call'd *Ajat*, ſituate upon a River of the ſame name; and the 13th to another Town called *Romaſheva*, upon the River *Reſh*. The Grounds hereabouts are very fertile and well peopled, abounding in all ſorts

ſorts of Corn; and whereas, whilſt we were upon the River *Suſowa*, we ſcarce got ſight of a Village in 60 Miles; we now could not travel a Verſt, or Engliſh Mile, without meeting with a good Village, where we were furniſh'd with every thing we ſtood in need of.

Whilſt we were in this Town, the Inhabitants received Intelligence by Meſſengers and Letters ſent for that purpoſe, that the *Calmuck Tartars*, to the Number of 6000, had made an Inroad into the next Province; where they had made ſuch miſerable havock, with Murthering, Burning, Plundering, and Driving away both Men and Cattle, that they had put all the Country round about under a great Conſternation, as dreading the ſame treatment.

On the 14th of *June* we reach'd *Newagorod*, a ſmall, but very pleaſant Town; it has but an indifferent Fortification, not much better than *Ufa*; but is remarkable for its Situation upon the River *Nema*, the Boundary of *Siberia* on this ſide. This Journey was very pleaſant and diverting to us after our former Fatigues and Dangers, the Country being every where fill'd with Inhabitants, and the Fields well cultivated, the wild Roſes, and other ſweet Herbs,

Herbs, affording a very agreeable ſcent, and a moſt delightful proſpect. The pleaſantneſs of the Place invited us to tarry here a whole day, which we ſpent in walking about the Fields, and gathering of Roſes, Lillies of the Valley, and ſuch like. On the 16th of *June* our Baggage arrived at *Newa-Gorod*; and the next following day we again received intelligence, that the above-mentioned *Calmuck Tartars* were advanced within four days Journey of this Place; and that after they had made themſelves Maſters of a certain Frontier Town, which they had beſieged, they intended to march this way: The Inhabitants hereabouts being ſufficiently ſenſible of the Cruelties exerciſed by theſe Vagabonds in their Excurſions, were in moſt dreadful fear of theſe Barbarians; and we forewarned of the approaching danger, haſtned the equipment of our Veſſel; which being got ready in five days after, we ſtay'd not one moment longer: but after we had thus ſpent ſeven days betwixt hope and fear at *Newa*, we ſet out from thence on the 21ſt of *June*, ſteering our courſe upon the River for *Tobolsko*, being provided with a Convoy of 12 *Coſſacks* of the Gariſon of *Newa*, for our better ſecurity.

The

The River *Reſh* falls 5 Miles above *Newa* into another River, where, with its ſtream, it loſes its Name, and is from thenceforward called *Niatza*. The firſt Town we met with upon this River on the 22^d, is called *Rudna*; and not far from thence another goodly Town called *Nigniske*, ſituate in a very fertile and populous Country, fit both for Paſturage and Tillage, the Fields and Plains being ſurrounded and covered with Roſe-trees, which afford a moſt delightful proſpect.

On the 23^d of *June* we paſs'd by three very handſome Towns, to wit, *Jebitzke*, *Kerginskoy*, and *Suborara*. On the 24^th we came in ſight of the Town called *Jalan*, famous for nothing elſe, but that near it, this River joins its Current with the River *Kira*. Towards the Evening we ſaw another Town at ſome diſtance named *Kraſna Hobod*; and on the 25^th, about Midnight, came to the City of *Tumen*.

It is a large and ſtrong Place, being fortified with a very good Wall; the Inhabitants are for the moſt part *Tartars*, who have ſetled here for the conveniency of Trade: They are much more civilized than any of the other *Tartars*, by reaſon of their frequent Converſation with Strangers. Moſt of theſe

these Towns furnish'd us with fresh Watermen; who being well rewarded for their pains, so warmly ply'd their Oars, that we advanced apace.

I cannot pass by here in silence the extraordinary Liberality and Hospitality of the Inhabitants of these Parts; for we scarce could pass by a Town, tho' never so indifferent, but the Inhabitants would come forth and bring us Provisions, and sometimes Furs, without the least reward or recompence, to our no small astonishment, who were not used to meet often with such kind treatment among such Barbarous Nations, they being generally of the *Tartarian* Race.

The next Town we met with, was called *Makowa*, situate on the Confluence of the Rivers *Pishma Reka*, and the *Tura*, which runs by the City of *Wergaturia*.

On the 28th of *June* we came as far as *Sutska*, situate on the Confluence of the Rivers *Tura* and *Tobol*. The next day we passed by *Pirsda Reka*, and *Turba Reka*; and on the 30th of *June* leaving the River *Taffda* to the Left of us, we arrived safely on the 1st day of *July* in the City of *Tobolsko*.

This City, which is the Capital of *Siberia*, is situate near the River *Tobol*, about 3000 Miles

3000 Miles from the City of *Muſco*. It is ſituate upon a Hill of a large Extent, the Suburbs being moſt inhabited by *Tartars*. There is here a very fair Monaſtery, ſurrounded with a very ſtrong brick Wall. Near this Place the River *Irtiſh* joins its Current with the River *Tobol*; *Tobolsko* is not only the Capital, but alſo the chief Place of Trade of all *Siberia*. Their Traffick conſiſts moſt in Furrs, ſuch as Sables, Ermins, Fox Skins, and ſuch-like.

The Kingdom of *Siberia* is watered by a great many large Rivers, among which the River *Oby* is the chiefeſt. This River has many Iſlands, which by reaſon of the thick Woods are unpaſſable. In ſome places the *Oby* is a League, in other places half a League broad; it abounds in Fiſh, ſuch as Sturgeon, White fiſh or *Belluja's*, and others.

The principal Cities of *Siberia* are, *Werthaturia*, *Japahzeen*, *Tumen*, *Tobolsko*, *Narim*, *Tomskoy*, *Koſnezi*, *Kraſnojer*, *Ker*, *Jenokisko*, *Ilim*, *Mongaſſy*, moſt of which are very large and populous Cities. The Kingdom of *Siberia* is ſurrounded by ſeveral *Tartarian* Nations, ſuch as the *Calmuck Tartars*, the *Tartars* of *Mongul*, and others, as the *Tungoskoy*, *Bratzkoy*, *Oſtiacky*,

acky, *Barrabinsy*, governed by their own Princes, and each of them distinguish'd by their different Languages. The *Samoyedes* are under the Jurisdiction of the *Czars* of *Muscovy*.

The Natives of *Siberia* are much addicted to Sorcery and Idolatry. The *Russians* inhabit most of the Cities; *Czar John Basilovits* was the first who brought this Kingdom under his Jurisdiction, after he had conquered the two *Tartarian* Kingdoms of *Casan* and *Astrachan*; since which time they pay their yearly Tribute of all sorts of Furrs which are found in *Siberia*, to wit, Sables, Martins, red and white Fox Skins, which amount to Two hundred thousand Rubles *per Annum*.

The Sables are catch'd by the Inhabitants by Traps, not unlike our Rat and Mice Traps; but they have also another way of Hunting and Killing the Sables, of which we shall have occasion to speak anon. They go a Sable hunting with Sleds drawn by Dogs, who carry the Sleds with more ease over the Snow than Horses. The *Czar* of *Muscovy* has the Twentieth of all the Sables that are catch'd throughout the Year; we being obliged to stay for some time at *Tobolsko*, as well to repose our selves after so tedious and troublesome

ſome a Journey, as to make all neceſſary Preparations for the future; we paſſed our time very pleaſantly in the Company of the *Waywode* or Governor *Stepan Ivanovits Sotticove*, and his two Sons *Fedor Stepanovits*, and *Ivan Stepanovits*, who ſhew'd us all the Civilities in the World, and there paſs'd few days but that they either were with us, or we with them, and entertain'd one another with every thing the Place would afford.

The Ambaſſador having diſpatch'd in the mean while an Expreſs to their *Czariſh* Majeſties, and every thing being provided for the proſecution of our Journey, we put as many Proviſions, Forage, and other Neceſſaries on board our two Veſſels, as would ſerve us for three Months: For, from hence to *Jenokisko*, whither we were bound, is 6000 Miles, for the moſt part through a deſolate Country, where there is but little Forage and Proviſion to be met with.

Accordingly after we had all taken our leave from the Governor and his Sons, we went on board our Veſſels on the 22d of *July*, under convoy of 20 *Strelitzes* or Muſqueteers, who were to conduct us to *Surgutt*, and directed our Courſe upon the River *Irtiſh*, towards *Jenokisko*. The

24th we ſailed with a fair Gale by a Town called *Dernjan*; but having occaſion for freſh Water-men, we went on ſhoar till we could be ſupplied with ſome. Near this place the River *Derjansko* falls into the *Irtiſh* on the Right hand, and the Inhabitants hereabouts being *Oſtiaky*, a lazy and idle People, we changed our Watermen ſometimes twice and thrice a day: Of their manner of Living we ſhall ſpeak more hereafter.

On the 28th of *July*, early in the Morning, we came to a Town called *Samarskojam*, where we ſtay'd till the 29th, when we got on board again by break of day. We had ſcarce ſailed two Miles upon the River *Irtiſh*, when we paſs'd into another leſſer River; which being a Branch of the River *Oby*, we were towed up againſt the Current, and at laſt, on the firſt day of *Auguſt*, entred that famous River *Oby*. This River riſing among the *Calmuck Tartars* from the South-Weſt, diſembogues in the *Tartarian* Sea; it is very dangerous for Ships, by reaſon of its depth, and the many Rocks, which render its Waters very boiſterous. The 6th of *Auguſt* we reach'd the City of *Surgut*, a Place which has nothing remarkable, but a ſmall Gariſon; the Governor of which

which having given us 16 of them to convoy us to *Narim*, we sent back those we had taken along with us from *Tobolsko*. Hereabouts you see nothing but a barren desolate Country, inhabited by a few miserable Wretches, who have scarce wherewithal to cover their Nakedness, all their Employment being Hunting of Sables, Ermins and Foxes.

They catch here the Sables in a quite different manner from what we have related before; for they shoot them with Arrows, or they make fire under the Trees where they know the Sables do shelter themselves; who being suffocated by the Smoak, fall from the Trees, and are soon catch'd. The Ermins they catch in Traps, and the Foxes they hunt with Dogs. We stay'd here till the 9th of *August*, when being furnish'd with fresh and sturdy young Water-men, who encouraged by the hopes of a good Reward, stood briskly to their Oars, We passed the 13th the River *Wache* to the Left of us, on the 19th the River *Tim*, and on the 24th arrived safely at *Narim*, a City situate on the Left-side of us upon the River *Oby*.

It is worth observation, that in the Winter-time there is no Travelling from *Tobolsko* to *Narim* with Horses, but this

Journey muſt be performed in Sleds drawn by Dogs; they put three or four of them before the Sled, and whip them along as we do our Horſes. When they go abroad a Hunting, they put their Proviſions and Hunting-tackle, ſuch as Bows, Arrows, Launces, and ſuch-like, in one of theſe Sleds drawn by Dogs, and thus travel to their rendezvouz, which is ſometimes 14 or 15 days Journey from their Habitations, and many times don't return in two months.

The *Oſtiaky* living in theſe Parts, make uſe of theſe Sleds in the ſame manner when they go abroad a Fiſhing; ſo that you may ſee them bring their Fiſh to Market in many Sleds all drawn (in the Winter-time) by Dogs.

We were provided here with new Barge-men, and 24 *Coſſacks*, who were to convoy us to *Jenokisko*, and on the 25th of *Auguſt* re-imbark'd upon the River *Oby*, which we left on the 29th of the ſame month, and entred the River *Ketto*, where being obliged to Row againſt the Current, we were above a month before we could reach the Town of *Mokuskoy*, from whence we continued our Journey by Land to *Jenokisko*. We ſaw abundance of Cedar-trees on both ſides of the River

River *Ketto*, and on the first of *September* refresh'd our selves at a small Town called *Kettskoy*. But meeting with very slender Accommodation, we got on board again the same night, and did not stir out of the Vessel till the 28th following, there being nothing but Desarts on both sides of the River. On the 16th of *September* we were all on a sudden put under a great Consternation; for it having frozen very hard the night before, we were in no small apprehension of the danger of perishing for want of Necessaries in these Desarts, which must have been infallibly our fate, if the Frost had continued longer; but, as good fortune would have it, we were soon freed from this Danger by a very agreeable Thaw; and being, besides this, encouraged by a fresh and favourable Gale, we made use of all our Skill; and on the 28th of the same month came to a Monastery, situate upon the Banks of the River, where we reposed our selves for some days, after a long fatigue of a whole month; and in remembrance of the past danger, kept a Thanksgiving day there on the 2d of *October*, to offer our Thanks to God Almighty for our Deliverance, and to implore his Mercy for the future.

After Prayers, *&c.* we set Sail again the same Evening, when we passed a small Village, which contained not above six Families. We saw hereabouts abundance of Currant-trees, both black and red; we had met with some of them before near this River, but no where else in so great a quantity, which made us judge, the Grounds hereabouts were more kind and fruitful than in other places. On the 3d of *October* died one of the Ambassador's Retinue after 13 days illness: His Name was *John George Weltzel*, a Native of *Germany*, of the City of *Golding* in *Silesia*, by his Profession a Painter. On the 7th of the same month, we got safely to the so long wish'd for small City of *Mokuskoy*, where, among other things, we gratified our selves with a cool draught of very good Beer. By Orders from the Ambassador we interr'd the dead Body of our Friend upon a Hill, upon the very Banks of the River *Jetto*, where we put a Cross; this being the only Monument we were capable of dedicating to the Memory of our deceased Fellow-traveller.

After we had a little recovered our selves from the past Fatigues, the Ambassador, and most of his Retinue, pursued their Journey by Land on the 10th of *October*,

October, leaving nine of his Attendance behind to take care of the Baggage, which was to follow us, as ſoon as the Roads ſhould be rendred convenient for the paſſage of Sleds. We travell'd for two days and nights through a moſt dreadful Foreſt, till on the 12th of the ſame month we came in ſight of *Jenoiiska*, where we made our publick Entrance the ſame night, with ſo much Magnificence, that the Inhabitants were ſurprized thereat. This City lies upon the River *Jenska*, famous not only for the conveniency of Shipping, but alſo for the moſt prodigious Plenty of Fiſh it affords. Betwixt this Place and *Tobolsko* the *Oſtiacky* have their Habitations. They are low of Stature, and very deformed; beſides which, both Men and Women conſtantly are ſubject to a certain Weakneſs in their Eyes, the cauſe of which they attribute to the want of Bread; which being a ſcarce Commodity among them, they ſeldom are maſters of it, unleſs they are by chance furniſh'd with it by Travellers; which happening very rarely in ſo remote a Country, we ſupplied them with what we were able to ſpare: Their common Food is River-fiſh; and inſtead of Bread, they make uſe of the ſame Fiſh dried. Whilſt we were as yet upon the

River *Oby*, we were every day ſuppli'd with great Quantities of the beſt River-fiſh by thoſe *Oſtiacky*, who refuſed our Money, but earneſtly entreated us to give them in lieu of it ſome Salt, Bread, and *Chineſe Shart* or Tobacco, which we did accordingly.

Not far from the Banks of the River *Ketto*, I eſpied one day ſome wretched Hutts, which believing to belong to the *Oſtiacky*; and being willing to ſatisfy my curioſity in taking a view of their Habitations, I got on ſhore; and having eaſily got admiſſion by the help of a ſmall Preſent of Bread and Salt to the Owners, I entred them, which made a wretched appearance, being made only of the Barks of Trees.

One among them, ſomewhat bigger than the reſt, and diſtinguiſh'd by certain Figures, invited my Curioſity to take a full View of it. Being entred, I found three Women lying upon the Ground, who at the ſight of me aroſe from their places, and by their noddings and threatnings ſufficiently teſtified their diſpleaſure of ſeeing a Stranger to interrupt them in their retirement; but being ſenſible that I had prepared my way by the Preſents given to the Owners, I took, not-

withſtanding

withſtanding all their wry Faces, the liberty to ſearch every corner of the Hutt. Theſe three Women, as I was informed afterwards, were the Wives of ſo many *Knezes* or Dukes of the *Oſtiacky*, but their Equipage appear'd little ſuitable to their Quality, for I could not meet with any thing worth taking notice of all over the Hall but their *Sheitan*, or (as they themſelves call'd it) their God: This Idol was of Wood, of about a Yard in length, appearing moſt dreadful at firſt ſight; the Head of it being covered with a ſtrong Tin or Iron-Plate, which look'd as black as a Chimney-ſtock, by reaſon of the many Incenſes which they offer to this Idol. For the reſt, it was dreſs'd up in a ragged Coat of woollen Cloth, patch'd together with 1000 pieces of all ſorts of Colours; I don't remember that ever I ſaw the moſt wretched Beggar make ſo miſerable an appearance as this their God, unto whom this ſuperſtitious People attribute a Power of preſerving them from ill. All the while we were upon the River betwixt *Sergutt* and *Mokuskoy*, we had no other Barge-men but theſe *Oſtiacky*; who, though they were young and luſtly Fellows, and were well entertained on Board of our Veſſels, yet were ſo lazy, that they would rather have

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ſate at home and ſtarved, than to come and work for a good livelihood. It is by reaſon of this their lazy Temper, that they ſeldom take the pains to go abroad a Hunting. And for the ſame reaſon it is, that they change continually their Habitations, ſometimes 16 or 20 times in a year, becauſe, ſay they, we are willing to put our ſelves beyond the reach of ſuch Travellers who come this way, and oftentimes, ſorely againſt our wills, force us to the Oars.

The Ambaſſador being willing to divert us with the ſimplicity of theſe ignorant Wretches, he cauſed his *Valet de Chambre* to bring forth a wooden Drummer; which being very artificially made with Clock-work within, beat the Drum, and expreſs'd ſome other Motions of the Head, Eyes and Hands ſo naturally, that the *Oſtiacky* being at firſt ſurprized at it, ſtarted back; but having a little recovered themſelves, and taken a full view of all his Poſtures, they knock'd their Heads againſt the Ground, proſtrating themſelves before the wooden Drummer in the ſame manner as they do before their *Shaitan*, or God; at which we could not forbear laughing.

To

To continue the ſport, a wooden Bear was brought forth by the Ambaſſador's Order, who, as he was made after the ſame faſhion, ſo he beat the Drum with his fore-paws, and all the Motions of the Head and Eyes as artificially as the Drummer; wherefore they alſo paid him the ſame Veneration. But they ſoon gave us to underſtand, that they were much more taken with the Drummer than with the Bear; for they with a very profound Reverence begg'd the Ambaſſador to beſtow upon them the Drummer, offering to give the weight of him in Money. But the Ambaſſador, being unwilling to encourage their Idolatry, and for ſome other Reaſons, denied their Requeſt.

Their Garments are made of the Skins of Beaſts, with the Furr on the out-ſide; in the Summer they cloath themſelves with the Skins of Fiſhes. We alſo made this Obſervation among them, That ſome have their *Sheitan* or Idol made of Wood, others of Lead, and others again of Braſs, according to their ſeveral Abilities; and the poorer ſort dreſs them up in Rags, the richer in Sables.

They have a very odd way of paying their Devotion to this Idol: For, inſtead of ſaying their Prayers, they whiſtle a certain

certain Tune, with ſtrange Poſtures, clapping their Hands together, beating their Heads to the ground, and making many Geſticulations with their Feet as they lie proſtrate before them, with many more ſuch-like ridiculous Ceremonies, too many to inſert here.

Whenever they Feaſt, they ſet a certain ſhare of the beſt Diſh aſide for the *Sheitan*; which if they ſhould neglect, they are of opinion, that the Victuals they eat, would turn to Worms in their Bowels; and if they ſhould take it away again from before the Idol, they are perſuaded, they ſhould be ſtruck Lame in all their Limbs. We were credibly informed, that at certain times they met in their Hutts, where they firſt began with Whiſtling, and afterwards continued to make moſt horrid Outcries and Lamentations, till a certain Spectre appear'd to them, which foretold them what was to happen to them the next year: as for inſtance, whether they were to be plagued with Famine; whether they ſhould be fortunate or unfortunate in their Hunting and Fiſhing; whether they ſhould continue in Health or not; whether they ſhould marry young or old Wives; whether they ſhould die a Natural death, or whether they ſhould be ſlain

or torn to pieces by the Bears and other wild Creatures; and more of ſuch like Predictions: which done, they pay their Adoration to the Spectre; and that being vaniſh'd, they look upon its Predictions as infallible, and accordingly attend their Fate with an unſhaken reſolution. They alſo pay a kind of Veneration to the Bear-Skin, and ſwear by it. When they have ſhot a Bear, they cut off his Head; and paying their Veneration to it, they whiſtle and ask, *Who is it that kill'd thee? the* Ruſſians *did it. Who cut off thy Head? the* Ruſſian *Axe did it. Who is it that has handled thee thus? the* Ruſſians *have done it*; laying thus all the fault upon the *Ruſſians.*

Theſe blind and ignorant Wretches have nevertheleſs this good Quality belonging to them, that they don't Curſe nor Swear; for which they ſhew ſuch an abhorrence, that they take care to make very lively Impreſſions againſt this Vice in their young Babes; being perſuaded, That he who Swears falſely or fooliſhly, ſhall certainly be unfortunate the whole Year, and be in danger of being torn to pieces by the Bears, or other wild Beaſts.

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For the rest, the *Ostiacky* are great Admirers of *Chinese Sharr* or Tobacco, which they take in a manner peculiar to themselves: For when they intend to Smoak, they fill their Mouth with Water; and so sucking the Tobacco-smoak in greedily, swallow it down with the Water. For which reason it is, that generally at the taking of the first Pipe in the Morning, they fall down drunk and insensible, but soon recover themselves. They seldom take Tobacco sitting, but always standing. For want of Tobacco, they smoak the shavings of their Tobacco-pipes, which are made of Wood, after a very course fashion.

We stay'd in the City of *Jenokisko*, or *Jenessay*, ten Weeks, where we were extreamly civilly treated by the Inhabitants, but most especially by the Governor. On the 13th of *December* we sent our heavy Baggage before upon Sleds, and the Ambassador with his Retinue followed on the 21st of the same month, taking our way towards *Irkutskoy*. We were conducted out of the Town to the next Village, as well by the Governor himself as the chiefest Inhabitants; and after having bid one another farewel, we continued our Journey for some time upon the River *Jenska*, which

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we afterwards left to our Right, and paſs'd all along the River *Tungusko Reka*, or *Tongaſi*, the Boundary of *Tungoeſes* on this ſide, of whom we ſhall have occaſion to ſpeak more hereafter. We paſs'd by ſeveral Villages on both ſides of the River, and on the 30th of *December* took up our Quarters in the Village called *Bubutſha*, where we refreſh'd our ſelves for four and twenty hours. Beyond this Village begins the great *Wolock* or Deſart, where you travel 8 or 10 days, without meeting any Village, or Houſe fit for Entertainment.

In the Year 1693, on New-years-day, we left the above-mentioned Village, and entred the above-mentioned *Wolock* or Deſart, which proved very troubleſome to us by reaſon of the Coldneſs of the Weather, which was ſo exceſſive, that our Victuals and Drink (which was only fair Water) froze, and turn'd to Ice, before we could bring it from hand to mouth. And when we had occaſion to travel upon the River, the Mountains of Ice, which often obſtructed our paſſage, were ſuch Obſtacles as were not eaſy to be ſurmounted, being obliged to cut our way through them with Axes. This prodigious Quantity of Ice, and the uneven Ways which are all over the Deſart, deter moſt

Travel-

Travellers from taking this Road in the Winter-time. We had once more the good fortune to overcome all these difficulties, and on the 8th of *January* came safely to the Village called *Kasma*. To refresh our selves and our Horses after so troublesome a Journey, we were obliged to stay here 13 days, which time we employed in sending for fresh Horses, and in taking a view of the Habitations of the *Tongueses*, of whom I will give you a short Relation.

They were formerly a War-like Nation, governed by its own Princes, inhabiting a very large Countrey. But they have of late years been conquered by the Victorious Arms of the *Czars* of *Muscovy*, unto whom they pay a yearly Tribute.

As to their Persons, they are very lusty and well proportion'd, their Cloaths being nothing but the Skins of Beasts, with the Furrs on the outside of divers Colours, neither Sex being to be distinguish'd by the least difference in their Habits. They take a particular pride to have their Cheeks stitch'd (whilst they are young) with black Thread through and through, some cross-ways, some in imitation of a Square, or any other figure they like best. This unaccountable piece of Pride, as painful as

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it is, (as cauſing great Swellings in their Faces) they look upon it as Badges of Honour, tranſmitted to them from their Anceſtors; the marks of which they retain with a great deal of ſatisfaction till their dying-day.

Their Cabans or Hutts are generally made of the Skins of the Reens, or ſome other wild Beaſts; thoſe of the better ſort of the Barks of Trees: It is a moſt ſurprizing thing to conceive how theſe poor Wretches are able to defend themſelves againſt the Violence of the Cold, in ſuch miſerable Cottages; but Cuſtom has inured them to endure theſe Hardſhips without the leaſt inconveniency to themſelves. For no ſooner are their Children come into the World, but they lay them in the Summer in cold Water, in the Winter in the Snow; by which means they are ſo accuſtomed to Cold, that they are the hardieſt People in the World.

They are diſtinguiſh'd into three ſorts: The firſt are called *Kunny Tungoeſi*, who make uſe of Horſes. The ſecond *Alenny*; who live altogether upon Hunting. The third *Sobaltzy*, who live more like Dogs than Men.

Their Idols are made only of Wood; every one has his domeſtick or tutelar God.

There is one who is look'd upon as the Patron of Hunting, who sends them good fortune when they go a Hunting after the wild Beast or wild Fowl. Another makes them successful in catching of Sables; another in Fishing: But sometimes they use their Gods but scurvily; for, if they have offered up their Prayers to them, and are deceived in their expectation, the God is thrown out of doors, till they happen to have better luck; then they are admitted again, and have their full and best share of what they have got abroad.

If five or six of these *Tongueſe* Families happen to live near one another (which is very rarely seen) they maintain betwixt them a *Shaman*, which signifies as much as a Sorcerer or Priest. At their Meetings this Priest appears in a Habit distinguish'd by many Figures of Beasts, such as Lions, Bears, Serpents, Adders, and such like; which being all of Iron, weigh generally above Two hundred pounds weight. Then he beats a Drum in a very doleful manner, at which the standers-by break out into most dreadful Lamentations and Outcries, pretending that they see certain Spectres in the figures of Ravens and other strange Birds; and

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the Priest, as if strucken with an Epileptick fit, falls down upon the ground, and is reverenc'd by these ignorant People as a Saint.

How mean and miserable soever their Condition is, they all of them have several Wives, whom they look upon as their greatest Treasure: The richer sort have often 10 or 12, whom they buy from their Fathers, sometimes for 10, sometimes for 15 Reen-deers a-piece.

Their manner of taking an Oath is most abominable; For, he that is to confirm the truth of a thing by his solemn Oath, is obliged to suck the Blood of a Dog wounded for this purpose with a Knife in his left fore leg, till he expires. They don't bury their dead Corps, but hang them on Trees, where they putrify, and at last waste away. They are very cautious of Swearing or Curling; the worst Curse they give one another, is to wish them to be forced to live among the *Russians*, or to Till the Ground, and such-like.

On the 21st of *January* we left the Village of *Kasma*, and continued our Journey in Sleds upon the River *Tunguska*, or *Tonguſi*, till after some time leaving it to the right of us, we passed from thence to

the ſmall River *Ilim*; both theſe Rivers are well peopled on both ſides of the Shoar. On the 25th we arrived in the ſmall City of *Ilimskoy*, ſituate upon the River *Ilim*, in the very Center of ſome high Mountains which ſurround it. On the 27th we continued our Journey from thence through a great Foreſt, which by reaſon of the badneſs of the Ways, we did not ſay behind us till after a troubleſome Journey of three days and nights, when we came to the River *Angara*, where we paſs'd by many others of leſs note, the Iſle of *Balagansko* and *Kamenko*, which are well peopled. Hereabouts live the *Bratiskoy*, who being of the Race of the *Mongul Tartars*, are Tributaries to the *Czars* of *Muſcovy*. Betwixt *Jenokitsko* or *Jeneſſay*, and *Irkutskoy*, great Quantities of Martins and Foxes are caught in the beginning of the Winter; but about *Jenokisko* are the beſt black Foxes, which are ſold at 20, 25, and 30 Rubles a-piece.

On the 11th of *February* we arrived ſafely in the City of *Irkutskoy*, ſituate upon the River *Angara*, where, for ſeveral Reaſons we ſtay'd a whole month, in which time we receiv'd all manner of civility from the Governor *Knez Ivan Petrovits Gargaran*. As he uſed often to invite

invite us to Dinner, I met ſeveral times there with a certain perſon, who being accounted a Saint among the *Mongul Tartars*, uſed to mutter out his Prayers, which were very long, holding in his Hands a long String with red Coral Beads, which he told without intermiſſion. On the 15th of *February* the Ambaſſador diſpatch'd a Meſſenger to the City of *Nawn*, on the Frontiers of *China*, to notify our Arrival in thoſe Parts. On the 9th of *March* we left the City of *Irkutskoy*, and being conducted out of the Town by the Governor and the chief Inhabitants to the next Village, we ſpent the whole night there in making good Cheer; and having bid one another Adieu, the next morning we came on the 10th of *March* in ſight of the Lake of *Baikala*, where the River *Angara* has its riſe.

This River was from the City of *Irkutskoy*, to its Entrance into the Lake, quite free from Ice, and had been ſo all the Winter long. They count it 30 Miles from the City to the Lake, the utmoſt Boundary of the Kingdom of *Siberia*.

The Lake of *Baikala* is about four days Journey in length, but at this Seaſon we paſſed its breadth with Sleds in ſix hours. It is more dangerous in the Summer by

reason of the changeableness of the Winds: The Inhabitants have this superstitious opinion concerning it, That whoever calls it *Oser* or a Lake, will scarce pass it without danger; but those who give it the Title of *Mor* or Sea, need not fear any thing. We dined on the 11th of *March* upon the said Lake, and towards Evening discovered six Cabans or Hutts belonging to the above-mentioned *Brattskoy*. Near these Hutts we saw a dead Sheep and Goat fix'd upon a Tree with the Heads upwards, which, they told us, were two Sacrifices made to the Heavens. I made the best inquiry I could concerning their Religion, but could get no satisfactory Account, only that they used to sacrifice a Sheep and a Goat once a year to the Creator of the Heavens, and that they adore the Sun. They are very industrious in Breeding of Cattle, but especially of Camels for the conveniency of the Caravans travelling to *China*.

We came the same Evening to a Monastery on the other side of the Lake, situate upon the Frontiers of the Province of *Dauri*, a very large and fertile Country. The next Morning, being the 12th, we passed through the Towns of *Kabania* and *Bolsko Sainko*, both small Places, but well fortified

fortified by the Inhabitants, they ſerving them as Bulwarks againſt the *Tartars* of *Mongul*, On the 19th of the ſame Month we came in ſight of *Udinskoy*, and the Ambaſſador was met three Miles out of Town by an Officer at the Head of 50 *Coſſacks*, who conducted him to the City, where he was received under the diſcharge of the Cannon. This Place, which is conſidered here as the Key of the Province of *Dauri*, has not been inhabited above ſix Years. The Caſtle, which is very well fortified after the *Ruſſian* manner, lies upon a Hill, from whence they have at ſeveral times bravely repulſed the *Mongul Tartars* that aſſaulted them. We lay ſtill here three Weeks, which time we ſpent (as we had done at *Irkutskoy*) in buying of Cattle for the conveniency of our Carriage. We bought Camels at 10 or 15 Rubles apiece, and Horſes for 4, 5, or 6 Rubles. We provided our ſelves alſo with as many Oxen as might furniſh us with Beef in our Journey to *China*, and back again.

Being now to travel through the great Deſart belonging to the *Mongul Tartars*, we pack'd our Baggage upon Camels and Horſes, the firſt carrying about 600 weight, the laſt about 250: We entred the Deſart

on the 6th of *April*, our Caravan conſiſting of 250 Men, ſome Hundreds of Camels and Horſes, and 400 Waggons, which in the night-time being drawn up in a Circle, encloſed the reſt, and at ſome diſtance from thence we placed our Centries, to advertiſe us of the approach of our Enemies, if any ſhould appear. But they not daring to attack us, took another courſe to vex us to the utmoſt of their power; for during the ſpace of three Weeks, that we travell'd through this Deſart, where we often were in want of Water for Men and Beaſt, the *Monguls* and *Tongueſes* burnt that ſmall quantity of dry Winter-graſs that was left, before us; ſo that being unprovided with Forage, we ſaw our Beaſts, but eſpecially our Horſes, drop down dead for want of Fother; and what was the worſt of all, the reſt were become ſo lean, that they were almoſt rendred quite unſerviceable. We loſt above a hundred Horſes in this Journey, to the great ſatisfaction of the *Tongueſes*; who looking upon Horſe-fleſh as a great Dainty, devoured them ſo ſoon as we had left them. The *Tongueſes*, who are diſperſed through theſe Deſarts, are of the ſame Religion with the *Brattskoy*, whom we have mentioned before. They bury with the dead

Corps

Corps of their Friends all their best Moveables; and if they become decrepit before they die, they lead them upon a high Mountain, where they burn them, and impale their best Horse near it.

The 24th and 25th of *April* we passed to the left of us by a Lake called *Jerawena*, abounding with all sorts of very good Fish; it is 20 Miles long, and 15 broad. Here it was we met with the Messenger who had been sent before by the Ambassador to *Musko*. On the 26th we came to a small Place called *Jerawena*, where we provided our selves with as many new Horses as we could get for Money.

It is to be observed, that in the Desarts round about *Jerawena*, there are the best black Sables; the *Cossacks* of *Jerwena*, who are the Sable-hunters hereabouts, go abroad a Hunting sometimes for three or four Months together; they make use of Scates, by the help of which they pass over the Snow with great Agility. We bought some of these Sables of them, from 8 and 10, to 20, 30, and 50 Rubles a pair.

On the 28th of *April* we again entred the Desart, but met here and there with some Woods. The 29th we pass'd on Horseback the River *Vda*, which arises from a great

great Lake, and is here not above three fathoms broad. The want of Fother continuing among our Cattle, occaſioned by the revengefulneſs of the *Monguls*, we loſt abundance more of our Horſes, and the reſt were ſo fatigued that we were in danger of wanting Proviſions, before we could paſs the Deſarts. For which reaſon the Ambaſſador commanded 10 Men to go in queſt of Horſes, which they effected with good ſucceſs; for on the 3d of *May* they met us with a good number of freſh Horſes near the Lake, called *Schack's Oſer*, which is four Miles long, and two broad. We had the good fortune to find here ſome Fother for our Horſes and Camels, which obliged us to ſtay here till the 5th of the ſame Month, when leaving the Lake to our Left, we continued our Journey to another Lake, which we paſs'd by on the 6th in the Morning, and the ſame day in the Afternoon reach'd the end of this troubleſome Deſart, after a moſt tedious and fatiguing Journey of near four Weeks.

The firſt Place we came to, is called *Plotbus*, near the ſmall River *Skieta*, containing not above ſix Families, who are ſettled there but very lately.

On the 15th we continued our Journey from *Plotbus* by Water upon Floats of Wood

Wood to *Nertzinskoy*. About a Mile from *Plotbus* the River *Schiera* falls into the River *Ingeda*, as the River *Okkon* joins its Current with the ſame at a ſmall diſtance from thence, and is afterwards called *Schiteka*. The Rivers *Nertza* and *Argun* fall afterwards into the ſame River, out of the laſt of which ariſes the famous River of *Tamour*, which diſembogues into the Ocean. On the 20th of *May* we came to the City of *Nertzinskoy*, the laſt Place of Note (unleſs it be *Argun*, a ſmall Town eight days Journey from thence) under the Juriſdiction of the *Czar* of *Muſcovy*. *Nertzinskoy* is ſituate upon the River *Nertza*, where about 6000 *Tungoeſes*, all Subjects to the *Czar* of *Muſcovy*, have their Habitations; who have fortified themſelves here againſt their Enemies. Hereabouts are abundance of *Lucerns* and *Sables*, which are in great Eſteem among the *Chineſes*. We were fain to ſtay two Months in this place, to give time to our Horſes and Camels to recover themſelves in the adjacent Paſtures. The *Coſſacks* hereabouts are very Rich, by reaſon of their Traffick with *China*, where they are exempted from paying any Cuſtom.

We then began to make all the neceſſary Preparations for our Journey through the

the Deſart; we provided our ſelves with Oxen, which were to be killed by the way as occaſion ſhould require; 50 *Coſſacks* were allotted us as a Convoy to *China*, and to ſee us ſafe back again to *Nertzinſkoy*, and the Ambaſſador appointed ſuch Gentlemen as belonged to his Retinue to manage all the Affairs belonging to the whole Caravan, each in his reſpective Station; who having the Command both over the *Ruſſian* Gentlemen and Merchants, were treated by them with a great deal of Reſpect, eſpecially the *Germans*, who led the Van, in regard they had had the Honour before their departure from *Muſco* to be admitted to Kiſs their *Czariſh* Majeſty's hands. On the 18th of *July*, when we were juſt ready to leave *Nertzinsko*, two *Coſſacks* brought Letters to the Ambaſſador from *Oſſokim Andre Kurdikoff*, who, as we ſaid before, had been diſpatch'd from *Irkutzkoy* to the City of *Naun*, on the Frontiers of *China*. The Contents of theſe Letters were, That he being not permitted to go to *Peking*, the Reſidence of the Emperor of *China*, had been obliged to deliver his Letters at *Naun*; which being diſpatch'd from thence to *Peking*, a certain Perſon of Quality, attended by a great many Servants,

was

was come to *Naun* to expect the Ambaſſador's Arrival. That the ſaid *Chineſe* Lord having ſent for him, had asked him, among other things, upon what account the Ambaſſador was ſent to the *Kams Hi Ammaogdo Chan*? To which he had anſwered, That he did not know the leaſt thing of it; but if he did, it would not become him to diſcover it. He had further asked him, What Countreyman the Ambaſſador was, and in what Station at Court? To which he had reply'd, That he was not able to give him an exact account of the matter, he having been only taken into his Service at *Irkutskoy*, from whence he had ſoon after been diſpatch'd to *Naun*; That all what he could tell was, That the Ambaſſador was a *German* by Birth, and in great Favour at Court, deſiring him to ſuperſede to ask him any further Queſtions, which he was not in a capacity to anſwer.

We did not ſet out from *Nertzinskoy* till in the Afternoon, to wit, on the 18th of *July*, and reached the ſame Night with part of our Caravan the River *Schileka*, where we ferried over. But our whole Caravan conſiſting of 400 Men, we ſtay'd here three days, this being the place of our rendezvouz. From hence the Ambaſſador

bassador dispatch'd a Messenger, whose Name was *Andre Ivonasi Krohoff*, to their *Czarish* Majesty's in *Musco*.

There were abundance of Gentlemen and Merchants belonging to our Caravan, who traded with Furrs to *China*. Each of them had 30 Pounds weight of Bisket allotted him for his share, during our whole Journey through the *Tartarian* Desart, which took up two Months. This slender Allowance did not proceed from any Covetousness of the Ambassador, but because we were obliged to manage our Carriages to the best advantage. Besides which, our ordinary Food was good Beef, and sometimes Venison.

From the above-mentioned River *Schileka*, we travelled three days together through a great Forest full of Bogs, and three days after through a Desart; and further, two days again through a Forest, before we reach'd the River *Samur*, which falls into the River *Schileka*. In the night-time we lodged in our Tents, of which we had 50 in Number. There is otherwise no Travelling hereabouts with Waggons, but only with Camels and Horses. For several days after we met with very bad Ways, the Ground being very boggy till you come to the River of *Argun*. At

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last we came on the 3d of *October* to the City of *Argun*, where we stay'd till the 7th, in being so long before our whole Caravan could pass the River. This River is at present the Boundary betwixt the Emperors of *Muscovy* and *China*, this City being the utmost Frontier place of the Province of *Dauri*, as far as it is under the Jurisdiction of the *Muscovites*. Some years ago the Territories of the *Czars* of *Muscovy* extended to the famous River of *Tamour*, but these were by vertue of a Treaty made in the Year 1689, (when *Fedor Alexievits* was sent Ambassador to *China*) betwixt both the Emperors, granted to the *Chinese*, as was also the strong Fortress of *Albazin*, situate upon the same River.

The *Mongul Tartars* being always abroad in Parties, we were obliged to be continually upon our Guard, for fear of our Baggage and Horses: These *Monguls* are generally great Cowards, ten well disciplin'd Men being able to beat a hundred of them.

The Ambassador dispatch'd from hence some *Cossacks* to the before-mentioned City of *Naun*, on the Frontiers of *China*, to desire the *Chinese* Governor to send us some Carriages to a certain place. The best

beſt of our diverſion was Hunting in the Deſart, where there was ſuch vaſt Numbers of Deer, that one night, when we were drawing up our Waggons to make our uſual Fence, ſome Deer leapt among us, of which we catch'd one with our hands. The River *Denbu*, which exonerates it ſelf into the River *Argun*, is four days Journey from the City of *Argun*.

The 15th of *Auguſt* we came to a large Navigable River called *Gaun*, whoſe Banks being overflown by the late Rains, we could not paſs with our Camels; whereas at other times it is Fordable in many places. Being unwilling to loſe time, we contrived a way to tranſport our ſelves and the Caravan, by killing a good many of our Oxen, the Hides of which we joined together; and with what Wood we could gather, we made a kind of Floating-Boats for the conveniency of Tranſportation. But the Hides were carried two Miles lower by the Current, and were not brought on the other ſide without great danger. Our Floating-Bridges ſucceeded better, which did us good ſervice: The Horſes being unloaded, were forced to ſwim croſs the River; We ſpent two days in paſſing the River, and loſt but one Horſe. On the 16th of *Auguſt* ſome

some *Tongueſes*, who having ſurprized ſome *Monguls* in their Habitations, and after they had maſſacred 50 of them, had carried the young ones into Slavery, offered us five of theſe Slaves, to wit, three Boys and two Girls, whom they would willingly have exchanged for Horſes. We could have bought them at the rate of 4 or 5 Rubles apiece; but the Ambaſſador conſidering that we were entred the *Chineſe* Territories, would not allow us to buy any of them. On the 23d of *Auguſt* we reach'd the ſmall River *Kellar*, which falls into the River *Argun*; we croſs'd the ſame River the next day on Horſe-back. The 26th of *Auguſt* we croſs'd again the River *Saduna*, a ſmall, but navigable River, which likewiſe diſcharges it ſelf into the River *Argun*. The 27th we paſs'd by the River *Gnar*, which joins its Current with the River *Saduna*; and on the 28th we met a Caravan, conſiſting of 150 *Ruſſian* Merchants, and 300 Camels, but no Horſes. They had left *Nartzinsko* the laſt Winter, in their Way to *China*, and were now returning home. They brought us the good News, that the *Chineſes* expected the Arrival of our Ambaſſador with a great deal of impatience. We tarried here two days, which time we

spent together as merrily as the circumstances of the Place would allow of; they presented us with some Tea, which was very welcome to us, who were grown quite weary of drinking cold Water.

After we had taken our leave of one another, we travelled for two days through a Countrey, very agreeable for its pleasant Hills and fertile Valleys, where the River *Tall* has its rise, and afterwards becomes a large navigable River. On the 31st of *August* our Messenger *Kundikoff* (whom the Ambassador had dispatch'd from *Tokutskoy* to *Naun*) returned and brought advice, that a certain Person of Note, in the Quality of an *Adogeda* (or Conductor of Ambassadors) was arrived from *Peking* to *Naun*, where he expected the Arrival of the Ambassador. On the 1st of *September* there came a Messenger from the said *Adogeda* to the Ambassador, who having complimented him in his Master's Name, brought us the first *Chinese* Carriages, and a Present of 10 Sheep, some Rice and Oatmeal, he was sent back immediately.

On the 2d of *September* we reach'd the first Out-Guards (consisting of 12 persons) of the *Chineses*, on the 3d we came to the second, and on the 4th to the third. These Scouts lay concealed upon the Hills, and as

as ſoon as they perceive any Caravans or other Strangers coming that way, they give notice to one another by certain Signals, which reach to the Cities of *China*. For ſeveral days together we travelled through very pleaſant Foreſts, where, among other Trees, we found abundance of Oaks, which were very low, but ſpread their Branches in a very large Compaſs. We ſaw here alſo Filbird-trees in the Plains, differing in ſhape from thoſe we have in *Europe*, as being not above half or three quarters of a Yard high, and their Stalks very thin; they bear a prodigious quantity of Nuts of a very large ſize.

The next Place we came to, was inhabited by the *Targut's Chinay*, who are Pagans, ſubject to the *Chineſes*; they are good Husband-men, the Countrey abounding in Oats, Barley, Oatmeal and Tobacco; and we being in want of ſome Oatmeal and Salt, we furniſhed our ſelves with as much as we ſtood in need of. Theſe People live on the utmoſt Confines of the Province of *Dauri*; for that part of the Province which is under the *Muſcovite* Juriſdiction, extends only to the River *Argun*, from whence to the Village of *Suttegarſhe*, all the reſt belongs to the *Chineſes*, by vertue of the above-mention'd Treaty. On the 10th of

September ſeveral other Meſſengers arrived from the *Adogeda*, who were ſent back immediately. After we had travelled three days longer through a Deſart, we arrived at laſt to the Village of *Suttega*, belonging to the *Chineſes*; where meeting with the *Adogeda*, whoſe Attendance conſiſted of 50 perſons, he invited us the ſame Evening into his Tent, where he preſented us with ſome *Thee* boil'd in Milk, with Flower and Butter, in wooden Diſhes, and ſome Preſerves and Sweet-meats. The 13th of *September* the ſaid *Adogeda* invited the Ambaſſador, with all his Retinue, to Dinner, where he met the Ambaſſador at ſome diſtance from his Tent, and after a very obliging Salute conducted him with his left hand thither. We ſtay'd about half an hour before Dinner was brought in, which time they beſtow'd in entertaining one another with ſeveral Queſtions: The *Adogeda* ask'd the Ambaſſador, How long he had been travelling from *Muſco* to this place? Unto which he reply'd, A year and a half. He ask'd him further his Name; which he told him was, *Ileſar Ileſarevits Isbrand.* Whilſt they paſſed their time in ſuch-like diſcourſes, Dinner was ſerved up, upon a ſmall Table, without a Table-cloth, the Ambaſſador and the *Adogeda* having each his own Diſh,

Diſh, as had all the reſt: Our Diſhes were filled with Mutton and Pork; the ſecond Courſe was Pottage, wherein was a mixture of fine Flower, made in the nature of a Pudding, but very long and thin, not unlike a Gut: We were put to a *nonplus* how to manage this Diſh; but two Secretaries belonging to the *Adogeda*, who were much better acquainted with it than we, ſhew'd us the way. For, inſtead of Knives, they had two Boneſticks; betwixt theſe they took up theſe Puddings, which they thus conveyed to their mouths, which they held over the Diſhes; and after they had bit off a good mouthful, they let the reſt drop in the Diſh again. Theſe Sticks uſed by the *Chineſes*, in lieu of our Knives and Forks, are ſtreight, of about a quarter of a Yard long, made either of Ebony-Wood, Bones or Ivory, tipp'd on the end where they touch the Victuals, with Gold or Silver, which they uſe with a great deal of dexterity, without touching the Victuals with their Fingers.

After Dinner two Silver Cups fill'd with Brandy were brought to the *Adogeda*, one of which he preſented to the Ambaſſador, the other he drunk himſelf. All the reſt had alſo Purcelain Cups with Brandy preſented them, which they were to take off

to the bottom. The Feaſt concluded with a Service of Sweetmeats in wooden Diſhes.

The 14th of *September* the Ambaſſador invited the *Adogeda* to his Quarters, where we obſerved, that our way of Entertaining, ſeem'd to them as ſtrange as theirs had done to us the day before.

After Dinner the Ambaſſador deſir'd the *Adogeda* to provide us the neceſſary Carriages and Paſſes, which he performed to our ſatisfaction. The Ambaſſador had for his daily allowance two Sheep; for each of his Secretaries, one Sheep; for each of his Gentlemen, one Sheep; for the reſt of his Attendance, ſome two, ſome three, ſome four to a Sheep; for the *Coſſacks*, Labourers and Grooms, ten Men to a Sheep; for the ordinary Fellows, a Meaſure of Oatmeal each a day; and for the better ſort, a Paper with Tea, which was a very plentiful Allowance, but that we wanted Bread, which is a Commodity as little known among the *Chineſes*, as ſome other *Aſiaticks*.

The Inhabitants of the City of *Naun*, 5 Miles diſtant from the Village of *Suttigatt*, are Idolaters, adoring the Devil in the night-time, with moſt horrid Out-cries. Their Houſes are very commodious and neat, their Livelihood being moſt Planting of Tobacco. On the 16th of *September* the Ambaſ-

Ambaſſador ſent to the *Adogeda* the following Preſents:

10 Sables.
50 Ermins.
5 Yards of black Cloth.
A Looking-glaſs with a gilt Frame.
Another Looking-glaſs with a black Frame.
Several Glaſs-bottles with *Aquavitæ.*
Some pieces of gilt Leather.
And ſeveral rare pieces made at *Augſburgh*, that moved by the help of Clock-work.

It was a great while before the *Adogeda* could be prevailed upon to accept theſe Preſents, by reaſon they are under an obligation not to receive any Preſents; for which reaſon it is, that, when any Preſents are offered them, which they cannot in honour refuſe; they have them valued, and are to return double the value of it to thoſe who preſented them. On the 21ſt the *Adogeda* ſent to the Ambaſſador ſix Tables covered with Sweetmeats, and two Earthen Bottles of *Chineſe* Brandy. On the 23d he invited the Ambaſſador to Dinner, and he was invited by us again on the 24th.

Having thus diverted our ſelves for 14 days in the Village of *Suttigett*, in the mean while that our Carriages were got

ready, we continued our Journey on *Michaelmas*-day. Each person of the first Rank had a Waggon drawn by Oxen, and a Horse allowed him. The rest of the Attendance were provided with Waggons, three, four, five and six in a Waggon; we came the same night to a Village, where we took up our Quarters, and the following night to another, where we also stay'd all night, after we had pass'd the day before through a Desart.

It ought to be remembred here, to the great Honour of the *Chinese*, that they treat Strangers with a great deal of civility; For, tho' we passed through uninhabitable Desarts, yet did we never want Conveniencies for Lodging; a sufficient number of Cabans being brought from distant places, which were always ready provided against our Arrival. They were stor'd with all necessary Utensils for the Kitchen, and each Hutt had a Servant, whose Business was to take care of the Fuel, Water, and other Necessaries. Every other day we had fresh Horses ready at hand, and the *Chinese* kept all night a constant Guard round our Waggon fence, to prevent any surprize; they were provided with Bells, to give the Alarm to one another in case of necessity.

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The *Adogeda* keeping conſtant Company with our Ambaſſador during the whole Journey, they often fell in diſcourſe together concerning the Nature and Policy of ſeveral Nations, which commonly ended in the Praiſe of *China*, of which the *Adogeda*, but eſpecially of the *Chineſe* Wall, (round which he told us, a Man could not travel in three years time) related us ſuch Wonders, that we could not but be ſurprized at it. Nothing was ſo troubleſome to us in this Deſart, as the want of freſh Water, which we were forced to dig for very deep, and was commonly ſo muddy, that it went againſt our ſtomachs. If we met with any that was tolerably good, we took care to carry ſome of it along with us in Leathern Flasks. Our beſt comfort was, that the Ambaſſador had every Morning a ſmall Kettle-full of boil'd Tea allowed him for his Breakfaſt, of which ſome of us had our ſhare, which was ſerved us in Cabans or Hutts ſet up for that purpoſe, at certain diſtances. We often uſed to divert our ſelves with Hunting, theſe Deſarts being full of all ſorts of very good Game. I and another, a particular Friend of mine, rid out one Morning a Hunting, to ſhoot ſome wild Sheep, but paid dearly for it; for having loſt our Caravan, we rid two days

and

and nights up and down the Desart, not knowing where we were, till at last we came in sight of some Hutts belonging to the *Mongul Tartars*, but durst not approach for fear of being assassinated by them. But they having espied us at a distance, came up with us, inviting us to their Cabans, where beyond all expectation, they treated us very civilly: It is possible they had heard of our Ambassadors coming that way, and judged that we belonged to his Retinue. Our greatest Trouble was how to find out means to send to the Ambassador, who had sent several of his Men in quest of us: We made them at last understand by many signs who we were, and what our Errand was with the Ambassador; upon which they sent a Messenger to give him notice where we were: It is easy to be imagined that we were very eager of going along with the Messenger; but our Horses being quite tired, we were forced to tarry there till our Caravan came by that way.

On the 15th of *October* we arrived near the River *Casumur*, which exonerates it self in the River *Nzun*, where we halted 24 hours, and refresh'd our selves with fair Water, which was as welcome to us as if it had been the best Wine, because we had been

been in great want of it before. Having provided our ſelves with as much as our Leathern Veſſels would hold, we continued our Journey, and on the 19th paſſed by the Ruins of ſeveral Cities, where we obſerved the Remnants of very ancient ſtone Monuments, repreſenting ſeveral Figures, quite different from thoſe we meet with in *Europe*. They ſay that theſe Places were deſtroyed by *Alexander the Great*. We ſaw alſo hereabouts ſeveral large ſtone Pillars of an exceſſive bigneſs, which being hung about with ſmall Bells, made a great noiſe when they were put in motion by the Wind. Beyond theſe we ſaw again the Ruins of ſeveral Places, and ſeveral Figures cut in Stone, repreſenting Men, Women, and ſeveral ſorts of Beaſts. Deer, Hares, and wild Sheep we meet in vaſt numbers, of the laſt we ſaw ſometimes 2 or 300 together; but they are very difficult to be catch'd, they being nimbler than a Deer. The Hares are hereabouts very ſmall, not much bigger than our Leverets. Pheaſants are alſo here in great quantities, but not eaſily to be reach'd by the Gun, for they don't ſettle upon the Trees, but run all along upon the Ground, ſwifter than other Birds can fly in the Air. We took a great deal of delight in the dexterity of the *Chineſes*, who with their

their Arrows would ſhoot any Bird flying. The *Adogeda* had very fine Falcons, who ſeldom let eſcape any Pheaſant or Hare they met with.

The nearer we approached the *Chineſe* Wall, the more populous we found the Country: For three days together, before we came in ſight of it, we travelled all over Rocks and Precipices, through which there was cut a ſafe Road for the conveniency of Travellers; and in the midſt of theſe Rocks there is a goodly City, called by the *Ruſſians*, *Schoma Gorod*, or *Kora Katon*. All hereabouts are abundance of Tigers, Leopards, and Panthers, for which reaſon the Ambaſſador, upon the perſuaſion of the *Adogeda*, ordered that no body ſhould ride at any diſtance from the Caravan, unleſs there were at leaſt three or more in Company. In the City of *Karakaton* ſome Alterations were made in our Proviſions by the *Chineſes*; for, inſtead of Sheep we had Hogs allowed us, and a Meaſure of Rice for each perſon. The Hogs in *China* have ſuch hanging Bellies, that they touch the Ground.

From hence we had a long days Journey to the *Chineſe* Wall, betwixt *Rich*, and the City of *Naun*; the Country is inhabited by the *Mongul Tartars*, who acknowledge the *Dala-*

Dalaclama for their Head. They keep their Idols in their Houſes, and preſent their Offerings to them, which is commonly Victuals and Drink. When they bury their Dead, they put a white Cock upon the Coffin. A *Mongul* Nun, who was continually muttering her Prayers with her Beads in her hands, being asked by the Ambaſſador, who it was ſhe adored, ſhe gave for anſwer, *I adore the ſame God, who being deprived of Heaven by your God, will certainly return thither, and put your God out of his place; when you will ſee ſtrange Alterations upon Earth.*

On the 27th of *October*, towards Evening, we came in ſight of the famous *Chineſe* Wall, which is four Fathoms high, and of ſuch thickneſs that eight perſons may ride upon it a-breaſt. It is 1500 *Engliſh* Miles long in a ſtraight Line; for if you will count the Hills and vaſt Mountains upon which it is built in ſome Places, it would amount at leaſt to 500 more. At each Miles diſtance there is a Tower. At the firſt Gate we entred, the Wall appear'd to be much decay'd; but at a Musket-ſhot from thence we paſſed through another Gate, which reſembled a large Baſtion. We were conducted through two more, and thoſe three laſt encloſed a large

place

place with their Walls, the three Gates ſerving for as many Baſtions. Upon the firſt Wall we ſaw a very large *Corps de Guards*, where, as they told us, there was kept a conſtant Guard. At ſome diſtance from the firſt Wall without the Gate, there was alſo a Watch kept, conſiſting only of 20 Soldiers. About a Mile within the Wall we paſſed by to the left of us the City of *Galgan*, which is ſurrounded with a very fine ſtone Wall. Near this Place we met with the firſt *Chineſe* Idols. It is to be admired what vaſt Numbers of Temples the *Chineſes* have dedicated to their Idols, all their Cities and Villages are full of them, nay you meet with them upon unacceſſible Mountains; they ſhew very well at a diſtance: But as to the Figures of their Idols, they are ſo dreadful as if they had been contrived on purpoſe to ſtrike Terror into the Beholders. They are made either of Wood or Clay, and are ſometimes gilt. In all their Temples you meet with a certain Idol, which being of a terrible aſpect, holds a Scepter in his hand, him they call the *God of War*, and pay a great deal of Veneration to him. This God is ſurrounded with Drums of all ſizes, which are beaten whilſt they are at their Devotion.

We were Quartered in the Suburbs, and

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at our arrival were met by their Pipers and others who play'd upon Cymbals, and beat the Drums, but made a very doleful noise. The *Adogeda* invited us to Supper, where we were very well entertain'd, and were treated with *Tarrasun*, a Liquor made of Rice. After Supper the *Adogeda* diverted us with a Play, or rather Farce, acted by the Players that were sent from *Peking* to meet him. What was most remarkable was, that they acted the Mimicks to the life, and changed their Postures and Cloaths, which were extraordinary Magnificent, frequently to our great astonishment. On the 28th of *October* we passed by another *Chinese* City, and towards Evening arrived in the City of *Xantuning*, where the Ambassador was entertained by the Governor with a magnificent Feast, and another Play. All the Apartments were hung with very rich Tapistry, and the whole Entertainment was very noble. The Ambassador, the Governor and the *Adogeda*, were plac'd each on a Table by themselves, but we were all put together on one Table. The dishes were brought in one after another, but none taken away till after the Feast was ended. There were in all eight Courses, and as often as a dish (which were all of Purcelain) was brought in, the Clerk of the Kitchen

Kitchen led the way, admoniſhing the Gueſts to eat heartily. At the beginning of the Feaſt, the *Adogeda* putting out his Sticks, ſhow'd them to the Ambaſſador as a Signal, that we ſhould follow his Example. Before Dinner we were entertained by a Boy of 10 years of age, who very naturally acted the Mimick, and made ſtrange Poſtures upon the Ground, which was covered with Tapeſtry: Which done, ſeven Purcelain Cups were placed upon a Table, which he took up backwards with his mouth; which he repeated afterwards, holding his hands upon his back. This was followed by an Entry, where a Man and a Woman acted the Lovers, and, to conclude the matter, a Man dreſſed up in a Tigers Skin paſs'd through the Room upon all-four's, to the no ſmall aſtoniſhment of thoſe who were ignorant of the contrivance. The Feaſt laſted above three hours, and the *Adogeda* deſiring the Ambaſſador to take a Walk with him, they were juſt going to take their leave, when one of the *Adogeda's* Servants whiſpering his Maſter, that the After-courſe was going to be ſerved up, they changed their Reſolution, and ſtay'd near two hours longer; during which time they were again diverted by the Players, who changed their Cloaths 8 or 10 times.

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The 29th of *October* we came in sight of the City of *Xunguxu*; in this as well as in all other Cities where we pass'd, the Ambassador was treated with all imaginable Respect and Civility. We were again entertain'd in this City with a Play, in a Play-house fitted up for that purpose. In one of their Temples there, we saw a Goddess, which being of Stone 128 Feet high, had 700 Hands. I had often the curiosity to enter their Temples, and to take a view of their Idols, who are of very different shapes and figures, and very terrible to behold, but most magnificently dress'd. Near this Place there is a famous Pagan Temple built upon a very high Rock, near the Monastery of *Jugungu*.

On the 30th of *October*, as we were travelling upon the Road, we met a great Number of Men and Women, who followed an Idol carried by two Men, and play'd merrily upon their Pipes, Cymbals and Drums. The Ambassador asked the *Adogeda*, What the meaning was of this Procession? To which he answer'd, That they were going to a neighbouring Temple to perform their Devotion.

The same day we pass'd in sight of a goodly Place, called the *Red City*, the Residence of the Sister of the *Bogdegan*, and famous for the Tombs of several *Chans*. This City lies near the *Chinese* Wall; we were fain to take up our Lodgings that night in a Village. Early

the next morning the *Adogeda* sent word to the Ambassador, that, having some business of moment to dispatch, he begg'd his pardon that he could not wait upon him immediately, but that if he would be pleased to go before, he would follow him as soon as possibly he could. We had scarce rid three or four hours, when the *Adogeda*'s Steward overtook us near one of their Temples, desiring us to tarry a little in this place, his Master being upon the Road to overtake us. We took this opportunity to take a view of the Temple, where meeting with three more of the *Adogeda*'s Servants, we saw them prostrate themselves first before the Idol that stood in the middle of the Temple, and afterwards to perform the same Ceremony to two others that stood on both sides of it. Towards noon we got to the City of *Xangote*, where having been entertained with a very handsome dinner by the Governor, we continued our Journey, and took up our nights Lodging in a Countrey Town. The first of *November* the Ambassador was again treated at dinner by a Governor of another City, and was Quartered also in another Countrey Town at night.

All the way as we passed along the Roads we met with such a prodigious Number of most magnificent Temples, that we could not but admire at the ignorance of these people,

ple, who shew so much Veneration to these Idols.

The 2d of *November* we came to the great and famous City of *Tunxo*, situate on a River, where the Ambassador was invited also to dinner by the Governor, who conducted us afterwards out of the Town. That night we were Quartered in the next Town to the City of *Peking*. The City of *Tukxe* is famous for its Traffick in Purcelain, which is sold here much cheaper than in *Peking*. The *Chinese* have a way of Pleating their Sails together in a very small Compass.

On the 3d of *November*, towards noon, we made a publick Entry in the Capital City of *Peking*, in very good Order and great Splendor, the Streets being crowded with vast Numbers of Spectators on both sides of the way, which raised such a dust, that we scarce could see one another: We had our Lodgings assigned us in the Court, which is the ordinary Residence of Foreign Ambassadors.

On the 12th of *November* the *Adagada* and his *Tawares* or Associate, waited upon the Ambassador, to give him notice that he was to be admitted to his publick Audience the next day, and to be conducted thither by 30 Horses, desiring him to get his Credentials and the Presents ready against that time. He asked the Ambassador who was

to

to carry the Preſents? and being anſwered, That this was to be performed by the *Coſſacks*, he ſhew'd his diſlike, deſiring that it might be done by ſome of his Retinue; which the Ambaſſador refuſed, telling him, That when they were carried to the place where they were to be delivered, he would do it with his own hands, wherewith he was very well ſatisfied, deſiring only, that they might be conveyed with good Couverts. Matters being thus ſettled, the Ambaſſador drank to him a Glaſs of *Spaniſh* Wine, to the Health of the *Dorgamba*; who being one of the firſt Men of the Empire, he took it off to the bottom; whereas before this time, we could never perſuade any of them to pledge us, they being a very obſtinate people, and very noiſy with their Tongues, if not gratified in their deſires.

It was the 14th of *November* before the Ambaſſador could be in readineſs to deliver his Credentials, when we were conducted to Court in the following manner: 15 *Coſſacks*, who carried the Preſents, led the Van; theſe were followed by one of the Maſters of the Jewel-Office belonging to the *Czar* of *Muſcovy*. After him the Secretary of the Embaſſy, who carried the Credentials. After him came the Ambaſſador betwixt the two *Adageda's*; and laſtly, the reſt of the Gentlemen belonging to the Ambaſſador.

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At the Entrance of the Caſtle, we did alight from our Horſes, and marched on foot through a long Gate, arch'd on the top. Before we entred the ſecond Gate, we paſs'd over a very fine Stone-Bridge, about 50 or 60 Paces long, on both ſides of which we took notice of a Wall about three foot high, with many Figures cut in Stone. Within the Gate we were conducted through a very ſpacious Court, where we ſaw two large Pillars, very artificially wrought with variety of Figures. From thence we went into a very fine Hall, where we found two Tables. No ſooner were we entred there, but the *Adogeda* deſir'd the Ambaſſador to ſit down upon the Ground upon ſuch Bolſters as were brought thither for that purpoſe; and ſoon after we ſaw four Lords, who are the Chiefeſt of the whole Empire, to enter the Room before the *Bogdegan* himſelf. Theſe four were the *Dorgamba*, the *Askamba*, the *Aligamba*, and the *Adogamba*. After the Credentials were delivered to the King himſelf, the Preſents were given to the *Adogeda*, who laid them upon the two Tables. Which done, the *Dorgamba*, with the other three Lords, came up to the Ambaſſador, and after having made their Compliments, and

given him each both their Hands, the *Dorgamba*, after his congratulatory Speech upon our happy arrival, enquir'd after Health of both their *Czariſh Majeſties*, telling him, that his Credentials ſhould be forthwith tranſlated, and he to receive an Anſwer to the ſame. After which, he told him what allowance was to be given to himſelf and his Retinue; to wit: every day for the Ambaſſador himſelf, two Sheep, one Gooſe, three Pullets, three Fiſh, a large meaſure of Flower, a large meaſure of Rice, two Pound of Butter, two Papers of *Thee*, Salt, and other Things proportionable, beſides two Gallons of *Tarraſun*. The reſt of his Retinue and other Servants, had the ſame Allowance as before, with ſome addition of Flower, Butter and *Tarraſun*.

The Ambaſſador being reconducted to his Quarters by the two *Adogeda's*, ſcarce three hours were paſs'd, before the youngeſt of the two *Adogeda's* brought word, that the *Czar's* Letters had been receiv'd with a great deal of Satisfaction, deſiring him in the *Bogdegan's* Name, to come and take a ſhare, with all his Retinue of his own Table. As they were going along the Streets to Court on Horſe-back, the *Adogeda* told the Ambaſſdor, that he ought

ought to look upon this Invitation as a moſt particular Grace, it being not cuſtomary for Ambaſſdors to receive this Honour immediately after the delivery of their Credentials.

Being entred the ſame Hall where the Credentials had been deliver'd before, the *Adogeda* invited the Ambaſſador to ſit down, and ſoon after entred the ſame four Lords before the *Bogdegan*, and ſaluted the Ambaſſador very obligingly. Immediately after, four Tables were brought into the Room, two of which were cover'd with forty Silver Diſhes, full of all Sorts of Sweet-Meats, for the Amhaſſador, the other two (where there were alſo ſome Sweet-Meats, and a Diſh with boil'd cold Mutton) fell to our ſhare. After Dinner, we were treated with *Thee* boil'd in Milk, in wooden Diſhes, which we took, and re-delivered to the Servants, with making deep Reveences. So ſoon as the Ambaſſador aroſe from the Table, all his Sweet-Meats were given to his Attendants; but what was left upon our Tables, was divided among the *Coſacks*.

The 16th of *November*, the *Dorgamba*, with ſeveral other *Chineſe* Lords, and the two *Adogeda's*, came to pay a Viſit to

the Ambaſſador; who entertain'd them with a Sett of very good Muſick, at which they ſeem'd to be extreamly well ſatisfied; and after they had ſtaid ſome time, the Ambaſſador made to the *Dorgamba* theſe following Preſents.

A large Looking-Glaſs with a black wooden Frame. A leſs Looking-Glaſs.

A round Looking-Glaſs with a gilt Frame. Two Watches.

Twenty pieces of gilt Leather.

Several fine Cuts.

Six very fine Cryſtal-Glaſſes.

A large Caſe for Glaſſes.

Three large Dogs ſpotted like Tygers.

A fine black Gun-Dog.

A piece of fine Hollin Linen-Cloth.

Four Lac'd Handkerchiefs;

Beſides ſome Sables, black Foxes, Ermins, and other *Siberian* Commodities, which were received in a moſt obliging manner by the *Dorgamba*. On the 17th of *November*, two Heralds at Arms, were ſent to invite the Ambaſſador and fourteen of the Gentlemen of his Retinue, to the *Bogdegan*'s Table; and we were not a Musket-ſhot from our Quarters, before we were met by the *Aaogeda's*, who conducted us into the Caſtle. Being entred the ſame Hall, where we had deliver'd

our

our Credentials before. The *Adogeda* preſented the Ambaſſador and his Retinue, with Chairs; immediately after, came the four abovementioned Lords, who after having paid their Complements to the Ambaſſador, asked him, whether he could ſpeak *Latin*; and being anſwer'd, he did not: they asked further, whether any of his Retinue were Maſters of the ſaid Language; and it being told him, that there was one who had ſome Knowledge of it, but not to perfection; they left us to return our Anſwer to the *Bogdegan*. We ſat above four or five hours before word was brought us, that we were to come to the *Bogdegan*; but were in the mean while treated with *Thee* boil'd in Milk by the *Adogeda*. An account was likewiſe taken of our Names, how many there were of us; which done, the *Adogeda* receiv'd Orders to conduct us. We paſs'd through three ſeveral Gates, and as many large and handſome Courts; among which, one deſerves to be particularly taken notice of. For in the midſt of it, there was a Bridge of Marble, ſuſtain'd by very fine Arches; under which was a Water, which being call'd, the *Bogdegan's Fiſh-Pond*, had the reſemblance of a fair ſmall River, and ſurrounded the Caſtle.

So ſoon as we entred the Room, where the *Bogdegan* was ſeated upon his Throne, the Ambaſſador was plac'd by the *Adogeda's* on one ſide of the Throne, which was ſurrounded with above three hundred Courtiers, who all wore the Emperour's Armes upon their Breaſts and Backs. The Roof of this Room was extraordinary high, and the ſides adorn'd with a great number of Marble Statues. Juſt oppoſite to it was the Emperour's Temple, a moſt magnificent Structure. On the other ſide of the Room, you look'd into another Court, where were the Lodgings of the Enuchs and other Women, that attended in the Emperour's *Seraglio*. The Ambaſſador was placed on the left-hand of the Throne, and his Attendance about four Rods behind him, on the right-hand; juſt oppoſite to the Ambaſſadors were the four abovementioned Lords; About forty Perſons, armed with Half-Pikes and Battle-Axes attended about the Throne. We had not ſat very long, before we ſaw a Table cover'd all over with Diſhes of Maſſive Gold, and fill'd with Sweet-Meats brought in, which was ſet before the Emperour; After this, two Tables with Sweet-Meats were brought in for the four Lords; and next to them, another Table with

with Sweet-Meats for the Ambaſſador; ſeveral Tables were placed for us, three belonging to a Table; The Sweet-Meats were all ſerv'd in Silver Diſhes; beſides which there were Grapes, Apples, Pears, Cheſnuts, China-Oranges, Citrons, and other Fruits. As for the *Chineſes*, of whom there were above a hundred, each had his own Table, with ſeveral Diſhes of Meat.

So ſoon as we ſaw the Emperour begin to eat, we were obliged to pay our Reverence by a low inclination of the Head, and then we eat of what was before us. After Dinner, which laſted above three hours, two large Cups of Brandy were preſented to the *Bogdegan*, who ordered the *Dorgamba* and another Great Lord, to conduct the Ambaſſador upon the Throne; Being advanc'd upon the Steps, the *Dorgamba*, by orders from the Emperour, preſented one of theſe Cups to the Ambaſſador, telling him, that he muſt make a low Reverence, and drink it all off at a Draught.

In the mean while, ſome *Jeſuits* having been ſent for, they appear'd inſtantly, and by Orders from the Emperour, ſpoke to the Ambaſſador in *Latin*; who anſwering them in *Italian*, that he was not

very well vers'd in the *Latin* Tongue, one of the Fathers began to talk in *Italian* with the Ambaſſador, whom he asked many Queſtions, and among the reſt, How long it was ſince he left *Muſcovy*? Unto which he having given a ſuitable Anſwer, he was re-conducted to his place. We were alſo each in his turn, placed oppoſite to the Throne, and preſented with a golden Cup of Brandy, which after we had taken up, with a very low Reverence, we were re-conducted to our reſpective places. Soon after we as well as the *Chineſes* there preſent, had ſome *Thee* boil'd in Milk preſented to us in wooden Diſhes, which as before we received, and return'd with a very low bow to the very ground. The Tables being remov'd, we were conducted out of the Room, which done, both the *Adogeda's* made a ſign to the Ambaſſador to follow them into another Apartment, which was done, becauſe we ſhould not ſee the *Bogdegan* deſcend from his Throne. He is originally a *Mongul Tartar*, of a brown Complexion, of about 45 years of Age.

The Ambaſſador deſir'd to be diſmiſs'd for that time, but the *Dorgamba* return'd from the Emperour, and asked the Ambaſſador, whether he could tell any tidings concern-

concerning ſome *Jeſuits*, who about three years before intended to travel to *China*, by the way of *Muſcovy*, but were ſtopt in their Journey? The Ambaſſador having anſwer'd that he knew nothing of them, the *Dorgamba* return'd with this Anſwer to the Emperour. In the mean while we were conducted to our former places, where the *Adogeda* deſir'd the Ambaſſador to ſit down a little, till the Sweet-Meats that were left, could be given to our Servants, which was done accordingly; it being a very antient Cuſtom among the *Chineſes*, always to let the Remnants of the Emperour's Table to be carried home. Our Servants being well loaden with Sweet-Meats, the two *Adogeda's* reconducted the Ambaſſador to his Quarters.

On the 18th of *November*, we as well as the *Coſacks* were entertain'd at our Quarters from the Emperour's Table. There was a Table in the Ambaſſador's Appartment for his own uſe, thoſe for the Gentlemen was laid in the Hall. All the Tables being cover'd with Meats, two of the *Bogdegan's* Courtiers came to deſire the Ambaſſador and his Retinue in the Emperour's Name to ſit down, which we did with a profound Reverence, in re-

reſpect to his Imperial Majeſty. Our Diſhes were, boil'd Geeſe, Pullets, Eggs, and all ſorts of Meats; Grapes, Apples, Pears, Wall-nuts, Cheſnuts, Citrons, China-Oranges, all ſorts of Preſerves and Sweet-Meats. The *Coſacks* din'd in the Court; and before Dinner, were all preſented with *Thee* boil'd in Milk. Towards Evening the two *Adogeda's* came to tell the Ambaſſador, that the *Bogdegan* was going to make a Progreſs for 20 days; and on the 7th of *December*, they came to give us notice of his return to *Peking*.

On the 8th we were again invited to the *Bogdegan's* Table, where we were treated in the ſame manner as before. On the 11th the *Askamba* and *Surguſhey*, were ſent by the *Bogdegan*, to invite the Ambaſſador and his Retinue to be preſent at a great Feaſt at Court, and to be conducted through the left-ſide of the Caſtle, whereas before, we had been brought in through the Great Court on the right-ſide.

Accordingly next Morning, five hours before day-light, the two *Adogeda's* came to our Quarters, and conducted us on Horſe-back to the Caſtle, where being entred on the left-ſide, the *Adogeda's* deſired the Ambaſſador to ſit down, where we

we were treated ſeveral times with *Thee*; in the mean while that one of the *Adogeda's* was gone to receive his further Inſtructions. At break of day, both the *Adogeda's* led us into a Court, where we ſaw two Elephants of an extraordinary bigneſs, with very rich Furnitures: Oppoſite to them, we ſaw a great many Drums plac'd upon the Ground, near which ſtood the Emperour's Guards, cloath'd in red Damask, and all round the Court we ſaw above a hundred Chairs, belonging to the *Chineſe* Lords. Being from thence conducted to the place where the *Bogdegan* was to make his Appearance, we entred on the left-ſide, where we ſaw ſeveral hundreds *Chineſe* Lords very magnificently dreſs'd, with the Emperour's Armes upon their Backs and Breaſts, ſitting upon Bolſters or Cuſhions, upon the ground. Their Caps were adorn'd with the Feathers of Peacocks, which were faſtn'd to them with fine Cryſtals. Thoſe of the firſt Rank had very large Saphirs upon their Caps. Near to theſe we had our Seats aſſign'd us; and ſcarce had we thus ſat an hour, when by the diſcharge of a Cannon (which made no great noiſe) a ſignal was given for the *Chineſes* to riſe, whilſt the *Bogdegan* was coming

coming in to mount his Throne, which ſtood directly oppoſite to the Door, thro' which we were introduc'd. All on a ſudden we heard a Chime of Bells, which being the ſignal for the *Chineſes*, they in very good Order made their appearance before the *Bogdegan*: In the mean while, a certain Perſon who ſtood near the *Bogdegan*, read for above an hour with a very loud and audible Voice out of a Book, which done, we heard very fine ſinging at ſome diſtance from us; After this two Drums were beat, which being another ſignal to the *Chineſes*, they fell upon their Knees, bending their Heads to the ground, three times, one after another. Then they riſe, and ſeveral Muſical Inſtruments made an agreeable Harmony for ſome time, during which they performed the ſame reverence twice more, and ſo took their Seats again. We were then conducted by the two *Adogedan's* in the preſence of the *Bogdean*, where we performed the ſame Ceremony in the ſame manner as the *Chineſes* had done; And the Ambaſſador being led by the Hand by the *Adogeda* up to the *Bogdegan's* Throne, had the honour to receive a diſh of *Thee* from the *Bogdegan's* own hands. We were likewiſe, after we had taken our Seats,

again

again treated with *Thee* boil'd in Milk, being obliged every time we took and re delivered the Cup, to turn our left-Leg under our Bodies, and ſo to make a low Inclination with our Heads. Soon after, the Ambaſſador being re-conducted by the *Adogeda* to his Seat, the *Chineſes*, all on a ſudden, plac'd themſelves on the right-ſide upon their bended Knees, knocking their Heads againſt the Ground three times, whilſt the *Bogdegan* was deſcending from the Throne. We were led by the two *Adogeda's* to the ſame place, where we were obliged to perform the ſame Ceremony. That part of the Court where the *Bogdegan's* Throne was plac'd, was lin'd with his Guards, cloath'd in red Damask, and arm'd with Battle-Axes and Half-Piques. The Solemnity being ended, we paſs'd again through the place where before we had deliver'd our Credentials, in order to our return to our Quarters; but the *Adogeda's* deſiring the Ambaſſador to ſtay a little longer, there being ſome *Chineſe* Lords, who were very ambitious to ſee the Ambaſſador and his Retinue, he granted his requeſt. As we were coming out of the Caſtle, we ſaw one of the Elephants, which was ſhewn us before, draw a great Waggon,

in

in which was the *Bogdegan*'s Throne; we were ſcarce return'd to our Quarters, when the *Adogeda* again entreated the Ambaſſador to go along with him to the *Bogdegan*'s Play-houſe, vvhere a very diverting Play vvas acted that day. He invited not only the Ambaſſador's Retinue, but alſo all the Merchants and *Coſacks*, to partake of the Shovv. And as vve vvere on our way thither, we met ſeveral *Chineſe* Lords, among whom was the *Askamba*, who came on purpoſe to bear the Ambaſſador Company thither. Before Dinner we had the diverſion of ſeeing a Fellow play all ſorts of Tricks. He took a ſtick, which was ſharp at one end in his Hand, on which he fixed a large round wooden Ball, which turn'd it ſelf without intermiſſion upon the Stick, till he threw it in the Air, and catch'd it again upon the point of the Stick, where it rowl'd about like before; Secondly, he took another Stick, but not ſo big as the former, which he fixed upon his upper Lip; in the middle of this Stick was a ſmall wooden Horſe, which continually turn'd about the Stick, as did another wooden Ball on the top of the Stick. Sometimes he put the Stick upon his Thumb, where it perform'd the ſame operation.

peration. Thirdly, he put the ſame Stick through a certain Inſtrument, not unlike our Flutes, which he held in his Mouth. On the point of the Stick he had fixed two Knives, not unlike our Shoe-maker's Knives, with their Edges to one another, which turn'd themſelves upon the Stick to the no ſmall aſtoniſhment of the Spectators. Fourthly, he took three ordinary Knives, two of which he kept ſteady in his left-hand, but no ſooner had he thrown the third up in the Air, but the other two follow'd, which he catch'd all three by the Handles. He ſhew'd us alſo ſeveral fine Poſtures on Horſe-back, and whilſt we were very magnificently treated at Dinner, we had the diverſion of the Play, which laſted till night; when we return'd home well ſatisfied with our Entertainment.

The 18th of *December*, both the *Adogeda's* came to ſalute the Ambaſſador in the Name of the *Dorgamba*, and to invite him and the Chiefeſt of his Domeſticks to paſs the next day at his Houſe. The next Morning his Horſes ſtood ready to attend us at our Quarters, from whence we went directly to the *Dorgamba's* Palace. We were conducted by the *Adogeda's* in a ſmall appartment, where we

we found the *Dorgamba* ready to receive the Ambaſſador, which he did in very obliging terms. Soon after we were treated with *Thee* boil'd in Milk, and the Ambaſſador having communicated for ſome time with the *Dorgamba*, concerning the Inſtructions, he had received from their *Czariſh* Majeſty's, the Ambaſſador was conducted from thence into the Dining-Room. As we entred the Room, the Players who were very magnificently dreſs'd, ſtood ready to begin the Play, which they did accordingly; It is the Cuſtom in *China* for the Actors to give a Book, containing the Contents of many Plays, to the Maſter of the Feaſts, out of which he chuſes which he likes beſt, which is commonly perform'd by ſinging in the nature of our *Opera's*.

The *Dorgamba* ſat at a Table by himſelf, next to him was plac'd the Ambaſſador at another Table, and next to him the two *Adogeda's* at another. Two other Tables were brought in for the Ambaſſador's Retinue; we were treated with great deal of Splendor. Our Drink was *Aqua vita* prepared with Cinnamon, which was brought to us in golden Cups, and we were forced to take it off quite to the bottom, the *Dorgamba* ſhewing us the way by

by his own Example. The Floor was covered all over with Tapiſtry, and behind the *Dorgamba* ſtood a little Page with a Basket made of Straw-work, which was the *Dorgamba*'s Spitting-Pot. Thus we ſpent the greateſt part of the day with a great deal of Diverſion, and on the 19th, being a great Feaſt day at Court, we were again ſplendidly Entertained at the *Bogdegan*'s Table.

In the year 1694. on the 6th of *January*, and on the 16th, we were again invited to the *Bogdegan*'s Table. On the 26th of the ſame month, the *Dorgamba* obliged us with the ſight of a very fierce Panther, and the ſame day we were again admitted to the *Bogdegan*'s Table. On the 27th we paid a viſit to the Jeſuits, who treated us with a very good Breakfaſt; Their Church is a very curious piece of Architecture, with a fine Organ, which is placed on the outſide of it towards the Street. There were at that time eight Fathers of that Society at *Peking*. On the 29th it was a hard Froſt, with a ſtrong North Wind and abundance of Snow. On the 4th of *February* both the *Adogeda*'s brought Orders for the Ambaſſador to make his Appearance at Court. Accordingly we went on Horſeback to Court on the 5th of *February*, where after we

had been entertain'd very ſplendidly at the *Bogdegan*'s Table, the Ambaſſador was told, that according to his deſire he ſhould be diſmiſs'd in twelve nights.

Accordingly on the 15th of *Febr.* the *Bogdegan* ſent one of his Coutiers to the Ambaſſador to deſire him to come to Court the next morning with all his Attendance, and the *Coſacks*, to receive the uſual Preſents of the *Bogdegan*. The day before we went to Court we were treated at the *Bogdegan*'s Charge at our Quarters, when the Ambaſſador with his whole Attendance went on Horſeback, being conducted by the *Adogeda*'s into a ſpacious Court, where we received the following Preſents.

A Horſe, with Bridle and Saddle, and all other Accoutrements.

A *Chineſe* Cap, with a Silk Puff on the top of it.

A Sur-toot of Damask Brocaded with Gold Serpents, and lined with Lamb-Skins.

A Scarff, a Knife, 6 Handkerchiefs, and 2 Tobacco Bags.

A pair of Leather Boots, and a pair of Silk Stockings.

A piece of Black Sattin of 10 yards.

A piece of *Ludan* of 20 yards.

16 pieces of *Kitaick*.

7 *Lan* of Silver worth 14 Crowns.

The

The Ambaſſador's Gentlemen had each of them the following Preſents.

A *Chineſe* Cap, with a red Silk Puff on the top.

A Damask Surtoot lined with Lambs-Skin.

A piece of Sattin of 10 yards.

A piece of *Ludan* of 10 yards.

A Scarff, with a Knife, 2 Tobacco Baggs, and 6 Handkerchiefs.

One pair of Leather Boots, with a pair of Silk Stockings quilted with Cotton.

16 pieces of *Kitaick*.

One *Lan* and a half of Silver worth 3 Crowns.

The *Coſacks* and Servants received each the following Preſents.

A piece of Sattin of 10 yards.

Eight pieces of *Kitaick*.

One *Lan* of Silver.

On the 18th of *February*, the Ambaſſador being again invited to Court, the *Dorgamba* told him, that if he were ready for his departure, the Carriages ſhould attend him the next morning at his Quarters. I am not ignorant that in this place I ought to give the Reader a particular Account of the Manners, Cuſtoms and Religion of the *Chineſes*; but I will content my ſelf to give only in this

Journal a general Account of the Empire of *China*, and its Capital City called *Peking*.

The moſt Potent Empire of *China* is known under ſeveral Names among Foreign Nations. The *Tartars* call it *Katay*; thoſe of *Siam*, *Sin*, the *Japanneſes*, *Than*, and ſome of the *Tartarian* Nations call it *Han*. The *Chineſes* themſelves have given it many Sir-names; for among the many Families that have ſway'd the *Chineſe* Scepter, each Founder of its Race has aſſigned it its particular Title. Thus it is called *Than*, (broad without meaſure) *Ju*, (Peace), *Tha*, (large), *Sciam*, (pleaſant), *Cheu*, (compleat); But among all the reſt, the *Chineſes* have retain'd two, the firſt of which is, *Chungchoa*, that is, the *Middle Empire*, and *Chunque*, which is the *Middle Garden*, being of Opinion that the Earth was four Square, and their Empire in the midſt of it.

This vaſt Country was in the year before the Birth of Chriſt 2254, divided into 12 Provinces by their Emperor *Xucus*, and by his Succeſſor *Iva* into 9, which at that time comprehended only the Northern Provinces, as far as the River *Kiang*. But after the Southern Parts were united with this Empire, it was divided into fifteen

fifteen Provinces. Moſt of them were formerly under the Juriſdiction of their own Princes, but after they were Conquered and United with the *Chineſe* Crown, were Governed by Viceroy's, who to this day have the Adminiſtration of Affairs in thoſe Places. It is divided into the Northern and Southern Part. The firſt is that which is properly called *Katay* by the *Tartars*, and comprehends 5 Provinces: to wit, *Peking*, *Xantung*, *Xanſi*, *Xiemſi*, *Honan*, to which ſome add the Province of *Leaotung*, and the Peninſula of *Corea*. The other 9 Provinces are; *Nanking*, *Chekiang*, *Kiangſi*, *Huquang*, *Suchuen*, *Queicheu*, *Junnan*, *Quangſi*, *Quantung*, *Fockien*, which by one general Name are called by the *Tartars*, *Mangin*. The North and Southern Provinces are divided by the River *Kiang*, (by the *Chineſes*, called the *Son of the Ocean*.) The Empire of *China* borders on the Eaſt on the great *Eaſtern Ocean*, called by the *Chineſes*, *Tung*. Towards the North, on the *Chineſe* Wall, which divides it from the *Great Tartary*; on the Weſt it has the Mountain of *Thebet* to the Confines of *Bengala*: On the South-ſide is the Kingdom of *Couchinchina*, which is Tributary to the *Chineſes* Empire. Its

whole Breadth, from the Isle of *Hanon*, situate under the 18th Degree of North Latitude, to the 42th Degree of North Latitude, is 330 *German* Leagues. Its length from the West, under the 112th Degree, till East under the 34th Degree, near the City *Ningpo* or *Nampo*, is 450 *German* Leagues.

This whole Empire seems both by Art and Nature made impregnable. For on the West side is the Mountain of *Thebet*, and the great Desart of *Xama*; On the North side the famous *Chinese* Wall, which was begun to be built in the year 215 before Christ's Birth, and was finished in 5 years; On the South and East it is surrounded with the Ocean, where by reason of the many Rocks and Sands there is no no safe Landing unless it be in a few places.

The City of *Peking*, the Capital of the Empire, and Residence of its Kings, has borrowed its Name from the Province of *Peking*, which on the East Borders on the great Gulph betwixt *Corea* and *Japan*; on the North-East upon the Province of *Leaotung*, on the North upon the *Great Tartary*, and part of the *Chinese* Wall, and on the West the Province of *Xansi*. This Province has 8 famous Cities, to wit;

Peking,

Peking, *Paoting*, *Hokian*, *Chinting*, *Xunte*, *Quanping*, *Taming*, and *Junping*: The City of *Peking* is ſituate under 39 Degrees 59 Minutes upon the Northern Confines of the Province of *Peking*, not far from the famous *Chineſe* Wall. On the South ſide it is fortified with two very ſtrong and high Walls. The Suburbs are encloſed in one ſingle Wall, with 3 very good Baſtions on each ſide of the Gate. You enter theſe Suburbs by a Bridge built over a River, which to the North ſide ſurrounds the Wall; from the Suburbs through the South-Gate, it is half an hours walking before you come to the Body of the City, where, at the Entrance there is a very high Baſtion, and as you turn to the left, another well-mounted with Cannon, from whence you may go into the City through the Old Gate. There are many other Baſtions to be ſeen all round the Walls, where every night the Gariſon keeps as ſtrict a Guard as if an Enemy were near at hand; but in the day time, the Emperor's Gentlemen of the Bed-Chamber Guard the Gates, not ſo much for its Defence, as to look after the Cuſtoms, which are to be paid there. The Citizens Houſes are generally finely built, and the Palaces of Perſons

Persons of Quality very stately Structures, but their greatest Magnificence appears in their Triumphal Arches. Their Temples are Adorned with Steeples of an extraordinary height, and most Artificially built: But the Streets of this so stately City are in no wise suitable to its Grandeur, there being very few among them Paved with Stones, which seems to be strange in a place where they don't want these Materials, the Streets being extreamly inconvenient and troublesome to walk both in fair and fowl weather. In dry weather, when the Wind blows from the North, the Dust is raised all over the City to that degree, that it spoils every thing in the Houses. The Inhabitants preserve themselves a little when they go abroad, by wearing a thin Veil almost like our Gawses, over their Faces, which comes down to their Breasts; besides that, they can see every body that passes without being seen by them, and without exposing their Faces to the Dust; they enjoy by it this conveniency, that they are not obliged to those frequent Salutes and other Ceremonies which are so much admired, and otherwise practised among the *Chineses*.

All

All the *Chineſe* Women are of a very low Stature, thoſe of Quality have very little Feet, in which they take a particular pride, for which reaſon they keep them extraordinary ſtreightned, to ſuch an exceſs, that many thereby quite loſe the uſe of their Feet. It is look'd upon as very ignominious among the *Chineſe* Ladies to ſhew their naked Feet. There is ſcarce a Street, Bridge or Gate in the City of *Peking*, where you don't meet with Horſes or Aſſes, which may be hir'd for a ſmall price to go up and down the Streets, where a Servant attends you and your Horſe. The Streets are always crouded with People; here you may ſee one dance upon the Rope, in another place you ſee one upon the Stage, who is ſurrounded with many Auditors, unto whom he relates certain Stories, and theſe reward him for his pains with a kind of Braſs-Money, which being four ſquare, ſign'd on one ſide with four Characters, and a hole in the middle for the conveniency of carrying them upon a ſtring, ten of them make no more than a Penny. But when any thing is to be bought or paid with Silver they uſe this method: they always wear by their ſides a pair of Shears, and Weights encloſed in wooden Caſes in their Pockets,

Pockets, by which means they cut the Silver Plates, and weigh of it as much as they have occaſion for at that time. You meet ſometimes in the Streets certain *Chineſes*, who beat their Breaſts with ſtones, others knock their Heads againſt Stones, till the Blood follows. There is ſcarce a Street but what has many Publick-houſes, which are diſtinguiſhed by their Sign-Poſts, where you find it written what ſort of Liquor they ſell within. Theſe Houſes are very neatly kept, and affording good Accommodation.

But it is time to look backwards, and to give you a ſhort Account of our return to *Muſcovy*.

On the 19th of *February* towards Evening, we began our Journey from *Peking*, being conducted out the Town by the two *Adogeda's*, and ſeveral other Perſons of Quality to the next Village. About five days Journey from *Peking*, the *Surguſbey* (who was to conduct us as far as to the City of *Naun*) brought us through an old ruined City, where in one of their Temples, we ſaw an Idol made of Clay but richly gilt, repreſenting a Woman; it was about 15 yards high, and had many Heads and Hands. Not far from thence in a Gallery, you ſaw another Figure, reſembling

ſembling a Woman-kind, which they ſaid, was her Daughter, lie in a Bed of Damask Quilt, cover'd with rich *Chineſe* Carpets.

On the 30th of *May*, we came to the City of *Naun*, and took up our Quarters in the Village *Suttigart*. On the 5th of *April*, I was ſurpriſed in my Quarters by a very ſtrange Spectacle; For my Hoſt's Daughter appear'd all on a ſudden, as if ſhe had been poſſeſs'd by the Devil, making ſuch horrid out-cries, as put us all in a fright. After ſhe had thus continued for ſome time, ſhe began to ſing very agreeably for half an hour, when the other Women there preſent, having begun to ſing certain Verſes, ſhe anſwered them immediately. I was ſo curious as to enquire, what could be the meaning of all this; to which they reply'd, that there being a Neighbour's Child very ill, this Virgin had been conſulted concerning her Recovery, ſhe being one vvho vvas in great Eſteem among them, and look'd upon as a Saint. The Neighbours vvere no ſooner departed, but an Aunt of hers took a fevv Coals, upon vvhich ſhe threw certain Incenſes, vvhich holding near her Face, ſhe ſoon opened her Eyes, and recovered her Senſes.

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On the 14th of *April*, vve ſet forvvard in our Journey from *Naun*, in Company of a *Chineſe* Envoy, vvho being a native of the City of *Margenn*, vvas ſent by the *Bogdegan*, to the *Waywode* of *Nartzinskoy*. On the 23th of *April*, vve paſs'd over a very high Mountain, not vvithout a great deal of difficulty, the *Snow* being above a Yard high on the top. On the 25th, vve changed our Courſe, being forevvarn'd by our Guide, vvho vvas a *Tungoeſe*, that three or four thouſand *Mongul Tartars* laid in Ambuſh for us, expecting our coming at a certain place. This obliged the Ambaſſador to chuſe another Road more to the right. On the 27th, vve came to the River *Laduna*, vvhere vve halted for ſome time. On the 2d of *May*, vve paſs'd over the River *Keilar*, and vve had not travell'd very far, before on the third of *May*, vve vvere overtaken by a Fire: For the *Mongul Tartars*, finding they had miſs'd their Aim, had out of Revenge, ſet fire to the long and dry Graſs, which was remaining, after the Winter Seaſon, in the Deſart, which being augmented by the violent Winds that blew towards us, ſurpriſed us ſo on a ſudden, that we had not time enough left us, to ſave our Tents. If this

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Fire had ſurpriſed us as we were upon our march, ſcarce any body would have eſcaped the Flames that ſurrounded us on all ſides. But now we had the good fortune to ſave our Cattle, and the damage received by the Fire was inconſiderable on our ſide, what was endamaged in our Carriages, being all repair'd in one day. The worſt was, that being deprived of Forage, ſome of our Cattle died daily for want of it, and we our ſelves began to be much ſtreightned for Proviſions. For which reaſon the Ambaſſador diſpatched three *Coſacks* to the *Waywode* of *Nartzinskoy*, to ſolicite prompt Succors of Cattle and Proviſions. And wherever we could light of any Horſes or Camels, we bought them up at a dear rate; the firſt at 40 and 50, the laſt at 70 or 80 *Rubels* a-piece.

The 8th of *May*, we came to the River *Margenn*, where meeting with good Forage, we ſtaid two days to refreſh our Cattle. And as we were travelling, we loſt one of our *Ruſſian* Servants, who having loſt his Horſe, was loſt himſelf in looking after it. On the 12th, we paſs'd the River *Gann* with our loaden Camels and Horſes; and finding the Trees hereabouts full of green Leaves and a pleaſant

ſant Country, we ſtaid here two days. On the 15th of *May*, we met the Convoy, which by order of the Governour of *Nartzinskoy*, was ſent us from *Argunn*. They came to us in very good time; for if they had ſtaid two days longer, our Cattle muſt all have periſh'd, and we been driven to the neceſſity of feeding on Horſe-Fleſh; for moſt of our Servants had loſt their Horſes before, and were fain to march on Foot through the Deſart. On the 21th of *May*, notwithſtanding there was a deep Snow faln the night before, we Ferry'd over the River of *Argunn*, a long days Journey from the City of the ſame name, where we ſtaid till the 25th and provided our ſelves with all Neceſſaries, enough to ſerve us till we came to *Nartzinskoy*. Moſt of our Attendance began to be very ſickly hereabouts, by reaſon, that having not been uſed to any Bread before theſe ſix Months, they eat of it with too much greedineſs. At ſome diſtance from *Argunn*, the Ambaſſador, with ſome of his *German* and *Ruſſian* Attendance left the *Caravan*, making the beſt of their way towards *Nartzinskoy*. On the 1ſt of *June*, we came to a ſmall River, which being by the late Rains rendred impaſſable by Horſes, we were

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kela, where we were fain to lay by for two hours, and afterwards row'd three miles further, before we could make use of our Sails. Towards Evening the wind chopping about, we were droven back for several miles, and at last met with a place fit for Anchorage. The Winds being somewhat laid, we early in the Morning set Sail again, and happily made the River of *Angara*, and so arriv'd on the first of *August*, toward Noon at *Irkutskoy*. On the 5th, we again set Sail from hence towards *Jenekiskoy*. On the 11th, we went on shoar in a Town belonging to the *Bratskoy*, on the left-side of the River of *Angara*, into which falls hereabouts another very large River. We left that Place again the same day in the Afternoon, and had not sail'd above a Mile, when we were forced to pass a very dangerous Cataract (or Water-fall) call'd *Pogmaly*. Not far from thence we pass'd another, call'd *Pyan*, much longer than the former; and no sooner were the Vessels brought over this dangerous Place, but they were in danger of having been swallowed up in a Whirl-pool. On the 12th of *August*, we came to another Cataract, call'd *Podana*, where we were fain to unload our Vessels; the Passage being very

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ſtreight and dangerous. On the 13th, we paſs'd another Cataract, not ſo dangerous as the former, but which continued for four or five miles. On the 14th, we came to an Anchor near the Cataract, call'd *Skamansko*, till we could be provided with expert Watermen, who being acquainted with the River, brought our Veſſels ſafely without being unloaden (the Water being very high) over the Cataract, tho' it was near three Miles long. On the 16th, before Noon, we paſs'd by the River *Itim*, which falls on the right-hand into the River *Tungusko*, as the *Angara* does to the left. We paſs'd the ſame day over another Cataract; and on the 17th left the River *Ketto* to the right of us. On the 19th, we paſs'd over three ſeveral Cataracts, near the laſt of which, we were met by a Meſſenger, whoſe name being *Andrekniboff*, had been diſpatch'd by the Ambaſſador from *Nartzinskoy* to *Muſco*. On the 22d, we left the River *Kama* to the right of us; and on the 25th in the Morning, paſs'd over another moſt dangerous Cataract, and arrived ſafely the ſame Evening at *Jenekiskoy*. We continued our Journey from thence on the 1ſt of *September* by Land to *Makoffsko*, where we arriv'd the 3d day,

and

and on the 7th, ſet forward again towards *Tobolsko*. On the 12th, we din'd in a Monaſtery, but did not ſtay longer than till night. On the 23d, early in the Morning, we came to *Jam-Katskoy*; and on the 26th towards Evening, to the City of *Narim*, about a Mile diſtance from the River *Oby*, where we embarqu'd on the 28th, but came on ſhoar again in the Afternoon, by reaſon of a ſtrong North-wind, which was quite contrary to us; we were fain to lie here till the 30th. On the 3d of *October*, the Wind veering about again to the North, we were obliged to come to another again till night; when we paſs'd by the River *Wache*. The 4th, the Wind blew ſtrong again from the North, ſo that we were fain to lie ſtill till the next Morning. On the 6th, we were ſtopt again by the North-wind, beſides which, it froze very hard that night. On the 8th, we got on ſhoar at *Surgutt*; and on the 9th the North-wind blew very ſtrong againſt us, with great Snows and a hard Froſt, ſo that we were obliged to ſtay on ſhoar till the 11th, when it began to thaw; but the North-wind continued till the 13th, in the Morning, when we ſet Sail again, and paſs'd by two Villages; the 14th, in the Forenoon, we entred

the River *Irtiſh*; and on the 15th, early in the Morning, arriv'd ſafely at *Samorskojam*.

The Ambaſſador being indiſpoſed ſtaid there till the 14th of *November*, when, being reſtor'd to his former Health by the uſe of proper Remedies, and the River *Irtiſh* being quite frozen up in the mean while, we continued our Journey from *Samarskojam* in Sleds. On the 19th, we came to *Demjansko*; and on the 20th to *Tobolsko*. Betwixt *Samarskojam* and *Tobolsko*, we paſs'd by abundance of Huts belonging to the *Oſtiaki*, moſt of Wood, and the Roads were hereabouts very narrow and not well beaten. On the 17th of *December*, we left *Tobolsko*; and the 20th in the Afternoon arrived at *Tumen*. From thence we went on the 21ſt, and came on the 23d too early in the Morning to the City of *Japantshin*, where we ſtaid only till the next day; and on the 27th early in the Morning, arrived in the City of *Wergaturia*, from whence we went further on in our Journey the 28th.

In the Year 1695, on *New-years-day*, we came to the City of *Sotokamskoy*, where we ſtaid till the next day; On the 5th we reach'd *Kaigorod*, which we left again the 6th; and on the 9th came

to

to *Jam-Usga*, ſituate upon the River *Siſella*. The 9th we din'd at *Jata Pyoldie*, and the 11th at *Janrſpas Uſpilſco*. The 12th we reach'd St. *Soto Witzogda*, where we ſtaid the next day till towards Evening. The 14th we came to the City of *Utingha*, and left it again the 15th towards Evening. The 18th we din'd in the City of *Totma*, where we ſtaid till the 19th towards night. The 21ſt, early in the Morning we reach'd *Schuſca-jam*, and continued our Journey from thence the next day. The 25th we came to *Jereſla*, where we only ſtaid till night. On the 27th to *Pereſla*, from whence we ſet forward again in our Journey on the 29th, and on the 31ſt of *Jan.* at night, arrived ſafely in a Village, call'd *Alexeſhe* on the River *Janſe*, not above five miles from the City of *Muſco*.

Here the Ambaſſador received Orders to ſtay till the next Morning, when Czar *Peter Alexiewits* came to this place to confer with him in private. After they had ſpent ſome hours together, the Czar took the Ambaſſador along with him to *Iſchmeiloff*, and from thence to *Brebolensko*; and we arrived the ſame day, being the 1ſt of *February*, ſafely in the City of *Muſco*, where we repos'd our ſelves after our Journey to *China*, in which we had ſpent 3 years, wanting 6 weeks.

F I N I S.

Some Curious

OBSERVATIONS

CONCERNING THE

PRODUCTS

OF

RUSSIA,

Which may serve as

A Supplement

To the Preceding

Treatiſe.

BIBLIOTHECA ROYALIS

Written Originally in LATIN *by*
Henry William Ludolf.

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Some Curious

OBSERVATIONS

Concerning the PRODUCTS

OF

Ruſſia, &c.

CHAP. I.

Of their Minerals.

THey have three ſorts of Salts in *Ruſſia*; the firſt is boil'd out of Springs, of which the beſt is made at *Permia* in *Siberia*. The ſecond is, their Stone-Salt, which is found in great quantity in the Province of *Uſſa*; The third is brought to perfection by the heat of the Sun in the Salt-Pits, near *Aſtrachan*, and in *Siberia*. There is alſo great

great ſtore of the beſt Salt-petre to be found, as alſo good Brimſtone, betwixt *Siberia* and the River *Wolga*, not far from the Kingdom of *Caſan*: but the exportation of it is prohibited.

There are alſo ſome Iron-Mines in *Ruſſia*, and near *Olonitz*, on the confines of *Sweden*.

Near *Archangel* there is *Sluida* Talck dug, which the *Engliſh* call *Muſcovy* Glaſs.

In the the Province of *Vſſa*, are found very fine Chryſtals.

On the frontiers of *Siberia*, near the River *Jeneſſay*, there is a Mine which produces an Oar, reſembling in colour and weight a golden Oar, but it is ſo volatile as to flie away in the Smoak, as ſoon as it is tryed by the Fire. Perhaps this Oar is much of the ſame nature in compariſon to Gold, what a certain Oar in *Germany*, call'd *Biſmuth*, is in reſpect to Silver, it being of the ſame colour and weight, and is found in the *Saxon* Silver Mines.

The *Ruſſians* are deſtitute of Silver Mines, but they often dig ſome of the Metal out of the old Graves.

The *Mammotovoy*, which is dug out of the Earth in *Siberia*, is very well worth taking notice of. The common People in

Ruſſia

Russia relate surprising things concerning its Origin. For they say, they are the Bones of certain Animals, which exceed in bigness any living Creature upon Earth; They make use of it in Physick, as we do of the Unicorn. A friend of mine presented me with a piece of it, which he said was given him by a *Muscovite*, who had brought it himself out of *Siberia*, which appears to me to be nothing else than a true Ivory. The more understanding Sort believe them to be Elephants Teeth, which ever since the time of the Deluge, have lain thus under ground.

The *Adamavoi-Kost* or *Adam's Earth*, is dug out of the Earth near *Archangel*; it is of a black Colour, very near as hard as a Stone, but its figure resembles the Branches of Trees; from whence some conjecture that it is a Wood petrefied. According to this Opinion, it must be supposed that this Wood being perhaps laid at the bottom of some River, whose Current has been choak'd up by the Sands, and covered these Woods.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

Of their Vegetables.

THE Ground in many Parts of *Muscovy* is more fertile than can well be imagined by Strangers. For it being full of Nitrous particles, these not only promote the Production of all kinds of Fruits, but also quicken their growth, and bring them sooner to perfection, than in some of the more Southern Countries; as it is besides some other Fruits, very observable in their Melons. They have a certain kind of Apples, call'd *Nativa*, which are not only of a fine taste, but also transparent like Glass. They have also several sorts of Berries, which are not to be found in other places. The *Hostaniti* are of a black colour, but of the same taste as our Cherries, having also a Stone in the middle. Their *Punanitzi* they use to suppress the Fumes after hard drinking. Besides which, they have those call'd, *Brussenici Kluckva and Gersmici*; the two last of which are also found in *Livonia*.

But

But among all their Vegetables, that Herb which they call, *Kosa Travic*, deserves to be taken notice of, for it resists Iron, and makes the Sythes if they touch it, spring to pieces. I cannot question the truth of it, because I have heard it confirm'd by very credible Persons, who have seen the effect of it in *Siberia*; tho' otherwise I am not very apt to give credit to the Relations of the vulgar sort in *Muscovy*, among which, that of the Vegetable Lamm is a general received Fable, sufficiently contradicted by Experience.

There is a certain Root in *Russia*, endow'd with an extraordinary Balsamick Quality, which also grows in *Siberia*, they call it *Voltschnoy-Koron*, which signifies as much as *Wolfs-Root*. They attribute to it a specifick Vertue of healing Wounds; But what they related of it, to wit, that it heals a Wound by only chewing of it, I will not affirm for truth.

Arbusi are called the *Astrachan* Melons; they are not of so delicious a taste as the others; they come nearer to a circular Figure, and their Seeds don't lie in the middle, but straggling thro' the Flesh of the Melon.

The

The *Astrathan* Pepper is more sharp and biting than other Pepper, is enclosed in a red Husk, the Pepper it self is yellow, and not round but flattish.

CHAP. III.

Of their living Creatures.

AMong the Insects of *Russia*, those call'd *Toreau*, are the most common, they most infest wooden Houses, but are not mischievous. Among the Fish, the *Sterlet* is counted one of the most delicious in *Russia*. It has a long Head and Tail, both of them making up above one half of its whole length, the rest of the Body being but very short. Its Skin is most like that of an Eel; those inclining to a yellowish colour, are accounted the best.

The Fish *Sasan* is very like our Carps. *Somis*, a very broad Fish, with a sharp Nose.

Beluga, or *White-Fish*, is sometimes found in the *Danube*, near *Comorrah*; they call it *Hausan* in *Hungary*, and is carried to *Vienna*, where it is look'd upon as

as a great Dainty, its Flesh being very luscious. Out of the Spawn of this Fish the best *Caviare* is made in *Muscovy*; tho' they also make it of the Spawn of the Sturgeons and Pikes. The River *Kama*, which exonerates it self into the River *Wolga*, furnishes the City of *Musco* with the best *Beluga*.

I don't remember that ever I met with any Birds in *Muscovy*, but what are sufficiently known among other *European* Nations. Among the four-legg'd Animals, the *Muscovites* esteem those the most, whose Furs protect them against the Injuries of the cold Season.

They have four different kinds of Foxes. The first are the ordinary sort; the second are those who have two dark strokes cross their Backs; and therefore are by the *Germans*, called Cross Foxes. The third are the white Foxes, whose Skins are the cheapest of all; And fourthly, the black ones, whose Skins are sold at a very dear rate, sometimes, as I have been told, at 80 *Rubels* or *Ducats* a piece.

The *Rosomacha*, so called by reason of its greediness, affords the most durable Furs.

But

But the chief vanity of the *Muſcovites*, conſiſts in their Sables. There is ſuch a prodigious difference betwixt theſe Furs, that a pair of them are ſold from three *Rubels* to a hundred *Rubels*. The black ones are the moſt precious; but the white ones are very rare.

In the great Plains betwixt *Muſcovy* and the *Crim Tartary*, there are abundance of wild Oxen, and wild Goats; the firſt they call *Zubri*, the laſt *Zajaki*.

Vichocolis, a kind of Water-Rats, whoſe Skins are of a delicious Scent.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

Of the Natives of Ruſſia.

THE *Muſcovites* are generally of a very ſtrong Conſtitution, both very tall and bulky. They are alſo very fruitful, which makes the Country very populous, as may be judged by the vaſt Armies which the *Muſcovites* bring into the Field in time of War. I have it from very credible Perſons, and ſuch as had conſiderable Commands in the preſent *Czar*'s Army, that a few years ago the Army which was raiſed againſt the *Precopian Tartars*, conſiſted of above 300000 Men. Above one half of the year being taken up with their Faſts, when the common People feed upon nothing elſe but Cabbage and Cucumbers, and theſe raw, only pickl'd. This is an evident ſign of their natural vigour, tho' it muſt alſo be allow'd, that they promote the digeſtion by the Brandy and Leeks, which they uſe in great quantity, and queſtionleſs, correct the viſcous Humours

ariſing in the Stomach by ſuch indigeſtible Nouriſhments. They know of no Epidemical Diſtempers in *Ruſſia*, unleſs you would give the Scurvy, (the general Plague of all the Northern Countries) that Name. The *Ruſſians* call it *Tſinga*.

Among the reſt we ought not to paſs by in ſilence here their ſtrange manner of Travelling betwixt *Siberia* and *China*. For they make uſe of Sleds with Sails, which carry them over the Snow when the Wind proves favourable; But if it proves contrary, they have Dogs ready at hand, who ſupply the defect of the Sails, which are laid by at that time. I have heard it affirm'd for truth, that twelve of theſe Dogs will draw as much as a good Horſe.

The Commodities exported from *Ruſſia* are: Rhubarb, but much inferior in goodneſs to that which is brought from *China* and *Turkey*. Ambergreeſe, Honey, Wax, Tar, Courſe Linen, Caviare *Ruſſia* Leather and Hemp. The City of *Jereſla* is famous for the dreſſing of *Ruſſia* Leather, which as well as the *Caviare*, is for the moſt part tranſported into *Italy*. The *Engliſh* and *Dutch* conſume abundance of *Ruſſia* Hemp, out of which they

they make their Cables for their Ships. Sometimes the *Dutch* are alſo permitted to export ſome Corn, of which they make great profit. The Cities of *Archangel* and *Narva*, are the two chiefeſt Places of Commerce betwixt the *Ruſſians*, *Engliſh* and *Dutch*. The firſt is moſt frequented by the *Dutch*, the laſt by the *Engliſh*. The *Armenian* Merchants have a free Trade at *Narva*, for the convenicy of tranſporting ſuch Commodities as they buy in *Holland*, by the way of *Narva*, into *Muſcovy*, and from thence by the River *Wolga* and the *Caſpian Sea*, into *Perſia*. But no body is permitted to return into *Perſia* by way of *Muſcovy*, unleſs he be come the ſame way before; it being otherwiſe much eaſier to return that way into *Perſia*, than to come from thence, as being againſt the current of the River *Wolga*.

Formerly the *Banjans* (who are *Indian* Merchants) uſed to traffick in the Capital City of *Muſco*. But of late they are forbidden to come any further than *Archangel*, where they drive a very conſiderable Trade.

There is also at present a constant Trade betwixt *Muscovy* and *China*; from whence the *Muscovites* bring Silks, *Thee*, and among other things a certain mixture, almost like Chalk, but of a yellowish colour, of an Aromatick Scent, which is look'd upon as a Sovereign Remedy against many Distempers. The *Buchartzi*, who, if I mistake not, are Mahometans, inhabiting near *Samarkand*, come frequently to *Tobolsko*, the Capital City of *Siberia*, with all sorts of *Indian* Commodities, for which Reason perhaps it is, that, as I have been informed, the *Arabian* Tongue is taught in some places of *Siberia*.

The *Calmuck Tartars* bring every year after Harvest-time, a great many thousands of Horses to Sale to the City of *Musco*.

They Trade also in Slaves, and sometimes sell their own Children to the *Russians*. I met once a young Boy of that Country who understood the *Russian* Tongue, whom out of Curiosity I asked several Questions, and among the rest, how they called God in his Native Tongue; he answered, *Boganasniet, We have no God*. But it is nevertheless certain,

tain, that they have a certain Religion, ſuch a one as it is; their High Prieſt being called *Kutaſta*, who as well as the *Kutaſta* of the *Mongul Tartars*, is ſubordinate to the *Dalac-Lama*, who being the *Pagan Pope* in thoſe Parts, keeps his Reſidence at a place called *Baontola*, not far from the Confines of *China*.

I have been credibly informed, that the *Chineſe Lama's* or Prieſts, do alſo acknowledge this *Dalac-Lama* for their Head. They are perſwaded that this *Dalac-Lama* is immortal, which Opinion they maintain among the common People without much difficulty; foraſmuch as he ſcarce ever appears, but to his Prieſts, who are all Partners in the Fraud.

I heard once a certain *Muſcovian* Lord, who had been ſent as Ambaſſador from *Muſco* to *China*, ſay, that it was offered him as a particular Favour, to appear before the *Dalac-Lama*, provided he would proſtrate himſelf before him; but, that he gave them many thanks for the Honour they intended to do him, without accepting their Offer.

I conclude with this hearty wish, that the door of Mercy may be opened to these blind Wretches, that they may be brought out of darkness to partake of the light of the true Religion.

FINIS.

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